

### 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, September 2 – Spiritual Development Commission at 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 3 – Special Council Meeting re: Constitution at 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 7 – Food Donation Sunday

Monday, September 8 – Chrismon Workshop at 2:00 p.m.

- Communication Committee at 8:00 p.m. via Zoom

Wednesday, September 10 – Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 20 – Men’s Ministry 9:00 a.m. at church

Wednesday, September 24 – New Covenant Women will meet at 1:00 p.m. with a presentation from the women who attended the National Convocation! Please make plans to attend!

- Community Life Commission at 2:00 p.m.

### Birthdays

† Beverly Watts – 12

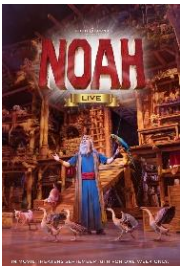
† Dianne Hermanson – 16

† Rose Marie Starr – 18

† Donna Short - 25

Did we miss your birthday? Please let Beverly or Dianne know.

**Sight & Sound’s flagship production, NOAH, is setting sail for movie theaters nationwide! Join us for a special 30th anniversary celebration as this extraordinary production goes from the big stage to the big screen.**



With a catastrophic storm on its way, Noah is given a monumental task: build a boat big enough to save his family - and two of every kind - from a flood that will cover the entire earth. As Noah endeavors to live faithfully in the midst of an increasingly chaotic world, can he trust that God’s promises run deeper than the rising waters around him?

Filmed in front of a live audience, this special event invites you to gather your crew two by two and join us onboard the ark for an unforgettable adventure — at the AMC Hickory 15 at 2000 Catawba Boulevard, SE. Showing is for one week beginning September 18. Kamara, Al and Dianne have enjoyed Sight & Sound productions live in Lancaster, PA and tell us it is phenomenal. If you can’t get to Lancaster, this is the next best way to see it.



# New Covenant News

**Volume 7, Number 5**

**September 2025**

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



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

### LIFE TO LIFE DISCIPLESHIP (ME, A DISCIPLE?)

Do you know the difference between an active church member and a disciple? Because of His great love for you and His desire to be in close relationship with you, Jesus is inviting YOU to join His band of disciples (past and present day)!!!

God has placed it on the hearts of New Jerusalem’s disciples to reach out to, and come alongside, future disciples across the Catawba Valley, joining Jesus on His mission to create a strong network of disciples in our Mission District. *Life to Life Discipleship* has been developed by the NALC to provide an intentional discipleship experience to congregations. *Life to Life Discipleship* is a way of life; it is not a class or program. As with Jesus’ original 12 disciples, He radically changes our lives and deepens our relationship with Him as we practice walking as one of His disciples

Jesus said to Peter and Andrew (and is saying to you), “Come, follow me.” Do you feel as if you might not have the qualifications to answer YES to Jesus’ call to discipleship?

If you think your schedule is already overloaded and you don’t have the time to make any other time commitments, hear what Jesus says: *If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross daily, and follow me*” (Luke 9:23) You may be surprised to see what you will learn about the effect your overloaded calendar has on your ability to make a commitment to become one of Jesus’ disciples.

Come to the *Life to Life Discipleship* Information Session on Monday, September 15 at 6:30 p.m. at Millers Lutheran Church in Hickory to see if what you are feeling is valid. A new *Life to Life Discipleship* session begins September 23 at New Jerusalem Lutheran Church, and you are invited to participate. Please speak to Pastor Weisner if you are interested in this life walk with Jesus.



Be careful what you think, because your thoughts run your life.

(Proverbs 4:23)

## It's Election Time

The annual meeting of the congregation is rapidly approaching which means it is time to elect new members to our church council. Part of being a church member is participating in the operation of the church by serving on committees and council. We have several members who have completed their terms and will need to be replaced. If you feel called to this service, or if you have any suggestions, please contact Allan Hermanson (856-430-3671). We are looking for a few good men/women. Pray about it and step forward in faith.

*Allan Hermanson*



What a privilege to represent New Covenant again. Attending were 64 ladies representing 21 States and Canada: 53 delegates, 6 former council members and 21 visitors. We were welcomed by Amy Werner (Chair), singing the Hymn “Be Thou My Vision”, followed with prayer by Rev. Amy Little, who spoke on discipleship and believes Christianity is no longer declining. Unbelievably, not all churches pray the Lord’s prayer! The NALC is growing – 34 Districts, 548 congregations. Continue believing in the power of God and our Core values: Christ centered, Mission Driven, Traditionally Grounded and Congregationally Focused.

Mary Bates spoke on Disaster Relief. Not enough workers. On-line training for 3 weeks. You need to gain the trust of the people first and understand what they are going through. Pray with them, staying spiritually core.

Rev. Carol Fryer, Director of Missions, spoke on the Great Commission Funds, support and grants. We have 21 global workers, each receiving \$12,000. WNALC voted to support the Great Commission Relief and the NALC Disaster Relief funds.

Following lunch, guest speaker, Rev. Patti Morlock, Associate Pastor at St. John’s Evangelical Lutheran Church in Grove City, Ohio spoke on “Run the Race of Life and Faith”. Write down your faith in letters to your family. Run the Christian race – *1 Peter 2:2; Hebrews 12:1*. Do you share the Word of God eagerly? We must get rid of sin if we want to win. Run with perseverance. God sets the course; he planned it that way. *2 Timothy 4:7-8*. Fix our eyes on Jesus, *John 5*.

Bishop Dan Selbo installed the newly elected WNALC Board Members.

Closed with prayer and Hymn, “Here I Am, Lord”.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Pam Henderson*

## Chrismon Workshop Continues



There will be no Workshop on Labor Day, September 1. We will pick it up again the following Monday, September 8 at 2:00 p.m. We spend about an hour and a half in making individual Chrismons. Along the way, there is fellowship, sharing and lots of laughter. Join us! No experience necessary!

## Call Committee Update

The Call Committee is in communication with a candidate. There have been telephone calls and an interview. The candidate and all members of the Call Committee are in prayer to discern God’s will for both the candidate and the call process. This is the third candidate that has contacted NCLC. It is apparent that God is working for and with us. Please keep the candidate and the members of the committee in your prayers as we seek to discern who God has chosen as our next shepherd.

## NALC Bi-Annual Convocation

Pam Henderson and I attended the Convocation the first week of August. The theme of the meeting was: *Running with Endurance: Fixing Our Eyes on Jesus* and the Bible Verse: *Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith.*” (Hebrews 12:1-2)

The Convocation celebrated fifteen years together with a clear commitment to the authority of the Bible and the urgent call to faithful mission. The NALC has grown to 543 congregations. There was a lot of focus on mission and Global Workers. The NALC currently sponsors 21 Global Workers, many of whom were present and shared displays and conversations about their ministry. Elections were held for leadership positions. Revision to the NALC Constitution were made. The Treasurer reported that the NALC has zero debt. The Proposed Budget, which is a statement of faith and a stewardship plan for fiscal responsibility, was presented and approved. Total Revenue: \$4,615,000; Total Expenses: \$4,606,822

Worship was uplifting and unifying. Music included both hymns and praise songs. With almost 600 people in attendance, most activities flowed smoothly. The agenda was followed and completed. The business of the NALC was presented and handled well and on time, with few exceptions. Pam and I are grateful to New Covenant Lutheran Church and the NALC for allowing us this opportunity to represent our community of faith.

## Calling All Women! Save the Date!



This year’s Carolina Women’s convocation will be held on Saturday, October 11, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Pomaria, SC.

### ***Lettuce Gather with Jesus – Nacho Average Convocation.***

Get ready for a day filled with vibrant fellowship, flavorful mission stories, and a fiesta of faith! Seasoned with a Mexican Fiesta flair, we look forward to each congregation brining their “street vendor-style” display to showcase how your mission and ministry is spicing up, from salsa-sweet stories of service to hot tamale testimonies. Whether you’re guacamole deep in outreach or just planting seeds of faith, come, be inspired, be uplifted by what God is doing in and through His people. Registration forms are on the counter in the narthex.

Pete Brittain Road Property

If you are like me, you believe that our Heavenly Father put us together with Thrive Church to bless us with what both New Covenant and Thrive each need...a church that is home for worship and praise, and one that will allow us to do outreach to our local community, region, and more. It is exciting to work towards our December 1st closing and dream of using that space to God’s glory!

After Thrive’s bold step of deciding to still sell their church to New Covenant even when the potential for their new property didn’t work out, Pastor Kidd of Thrive has asked our prayers for progress in their new negotiations for a property which has a building “that you can put three of Thrive’s current church buildings inside of!”... the skating rink just off of South Sterling Street. They hope to be able to reach an agreement with the current owners by mid-September.



Please pray for New Covenant, as well, as we work through the “Due Diligence” phase in reaching that December 1st goal. In addition to the basic due diligence, Howy Copenhaver has had many thoughts on what needs to be completed and has provided an extensive list (which he says is not all encompassing) from which we are working. So far: an Inspection of the property has been completed with no real surprises, several brief face-to-face meetings with the attorney have taken place to make sure we are on track, three people together explored the eight acres, a survey has been completed, documents pertinent to sufficiency of funds have been forwarded, logistics and timing for our move to the new location have been discussed and a preliminary plan made, online manuals for every piece of equipment have been procured, insurance for the new building has been discussed and will timely be put in place, and more...

We will join in worship and communion with Thrive Church on Pete Brittain Road on November 30th, prior to our moving in. Plans for the move: Come ready on November 23, after our final service in the leased space, and we’ll move out!

*Eric Stuenkel, President*

A Peak at Our Finances

Year-to-date through July		
Donations received		67,411.12
Expenses		<u>-67,083.70</u>
Net		<b>327.42</b>

Ministry Opportunities

The Pregnancy Care Center of Burke is having a huge community event, and New Covenant has joined in as an event sponsor. Our church logo will be on the event t-shirts, and we will be recognized on the Pregnancy Care Center website and social media page. The **2025 Day for Life** event will be held on Saturday October 18th. Information from their website:

*Join us for the Pregnancy Care Center of Burke County’s inaugural Day for Life 5k Run/Walk and Mile Fun Run/Walk, the kickoff to our Burke Day for Life celebration—a day of community, family, music, food, and fun for all ages. The 5k race begins at 8:00 am; the start and finish line will be at Burkemont Baptist Church. The Mile Fun Run/Walk begins at 9:30 am and will be a loop course, also starting and finishing at Burkemont Baptist Church. All ages are encouraged to participate.*

*After the races, get ready to celebrate with food trucks, live music, carnival games and treats, door prizes and a raffle. All proceeds from these events support the services of the Pregnancy Care Center of Burke County.*

They would also love for our Congregation to have a table/carnival game. If anyone is interested in spearheading that, please let Angela Williams know. We would need to supply the necessary items for the games. Prizes are optional but encouraged! This portion of the event will be 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Set up can begin that morning as early as 9:00 a.m.

Any donations of Raffle and Door Prizes is welcome. Anything above a \$50 value will be a raffle item and anything below will be a door prize! So far they have: homemade crafts, gift cards, etc. We have some very generous and talented members; if you have something to donate, please let Angela Williams know.

The website to register for the 5K and Fun Run is [Day For Life 5K and Fun Run](#). There is also a place just to order your t-shirt! All this goes to help fund the services provided by the PCCOB.

NALC Disaster Response - We will be gathering items for disaster relief again during September. A sign-up sheet is on the front table.



What Do We Know About Martin Luther?



Martin Luther loved music and wrote dozens of hymns. (Many are in the LBW.) Prior to entering the monastery, he played the flute and the lute. He once said that, next to God, music deserves the highest praise. He did not see a Bible until the age of 20 and later translated the Bible into German so that the laity would have access to it. *(Watch for more Luther info next month!)*