

NEW COVENANT'S OUTREACH MINISTRY: Members of New Covenant spent the day giving out Bibles at the 44th Annual Waldensian Festival in Valdese, NC on Saturday, August 10. 600 Bibles were purchased with the help of a grant and 212 were given out at the Festival. The English Standard Version Bibles included a bookplate with information about New Covenant Lutheran Mission.



SHOEBOX COLLECTION IS UNDERWAY! New Covenant is joining Grace Lutheran Church in Newton, NC in the collection of Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. Please return your completed shoeboxes by Sunday, November 10 so that they can be delivered to Grace Lutheran to meet the deadline. A gracious donor has given funds to cover the cost of shipping the shoeboxes, so you do not need to include a check in your box for the shipping. Be sure to tape a label on the outside of the box, in the spot marked "label", to designate if the fits are for a boy or girl and which age group.

MORE OUTREACH MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES: New Covenant Lutheran Mission has the opportunity to apply for another grant for outreach ministries. Please share your ideas with the Leadership Committee members.

THE FILM "OVERCOMER" High school basketball coach John Harrison and his team face an uncertain future when their town's largest manufacturing plant shuts down unexpectedly. As hundreds of people move away, John reluctantly agrees to coach cross-country, a sport he doesn't even like. His outlook soon changes when he meets Hannah Scott, an unlikely runner who pushes herself to the limit. Inspired by the words and prayers of a new friend, John starts to train Hannah for the biggest race of her young life. This film presents the Gospel clearly and is a great Christian movie. Rick Watts said "It's the best movie that I've seen in years."



New Covenant News

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New Covenant Lutheran Mission in Valdese, NC



NOTES FROM THE NALC CONVOCATION 2019

The Rev. Dan Selbo was elected bishop of the North American Lutheran Church by the 2019 NALC Convocation on Friday, August 9, in Indianapolis, Indiana. Bishop Selbo currently serves as pastor of St. Timothy's Lutheran Church in San Jose, California. He holds Masters of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees from Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota.

More than 800 delegates and visitors gathered August 7 – 9 for the 2019 Convocation and Mission Festival around the theme, "Walking by the Spirit with the Fruit of the Spirit." A Thursday night banquet honored Bishop John Bradosky for his service to the Church. Bishop Bradosky is retiring and did not seek reelection. Bishop Selbo was installed as bishop during the closing worship of the Convocation, but his four-year term officially begins October 1.

The Mission Festival that preceded the Convocation highlighted the NALC's relationship with Lutherans in Ethiopia and Tanzania. The Rev. Dr. Alex Mkumbo, bishop of Yigezu, president of the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus, were featured speakers for the Mission Festival. They also brought greetings to the Convocation and took part in the installation service for Bishop Selbo. The Mission Festival also featured a variety of breakout sessions to equip members for mission.

Other Elections: The Rev. Bassam Abdallah of Prospect, Kentucky, and Scott Kramer of Boerne, Texas, were elected to four-year terms on the Executive Council. The Rev. Jennifer Gold of Helotes, Texas, and the Rev. Leslie Haines of Fort Wayne, Indiana, were elected to the Court of Adjudication.

2020 budgets were approved. The Convocation approved a \$2.2 million Operating Budget for the NALC. Budgets were also approved for the church's designated funds: \$723,000 for the Theological Education Fund (which includes the North American Lutheran Seminary); \$197,500 for the Great Commission Fund; and \$123,000 for the Disaster Response Fund. Most of the budgets anticipate spending some cash reserves.

A new NALC Global Worker, the Rev. Heidi Punt of Christ United Lutheran Church in Granite Falls, NC, was commissioned for service in Haiti with Sundouloi Ministries (SMI Haiti).

Reports of the work of the NALC’s staff, teams, task forces, ministries and ministry partners were warmly received. Events preceding the Convocation were the Mission Festival, Braaten-Benne Lectures in Theology, Women of the NALC Annual Gathering and the Ventures in Youth Ministry Symposium, The Convocation and the events preceding it comprise the NALC’s annual Lutheran Week. Documents, photos and videos from the Convocation and other events of Lutheran Week are posted at lutheranweek.com.

ATTENDANCE AUGUST 2019

	8/4/19	8/11/19	8/18/19	8/25/19
Attendance	30	24	31	19

GIVING TO OUR LORD’S WORK

GIVING: General Fund Offerings (as of 9/1/19): \$27,141.15
Average Weekly giving: \$1,293.00

MINISTRY: General Fund Expenses (as of 9/1/19): \$5136.56

BALANCE: General Fund Balance (as of 9/1/19): \$23,004.59
Building Fund Balance (as of 9/1/19): \$14,800.00
Total Balance: \$37,804.59

DONATION RECEIVED: New Covenant Lutheran Mission received a very generous gift of \$5000.00 by an anonymous donor. Thanks be to God! The donation was sent through the Community Foundation of Burke County. It is intended to be used for the building fund.

CALLING AN INTERIM PASTOR: We will be interviewing two pastors during September. They will be preaching September 22 and 29. Please make every effort to come share worship with them on these Sundays because you will be helping to make the decision on whether or not to extend a call to one of them. These are exciting times as New Covenant Lutheran Mission takes the next steps in our journey with Christ!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! On October 10, Franklin Graham with the Decision America Tar Heel State Tour will be at the L.P. Frans Stadium in Hickory. More details will be in future newsletters and bulletins.

WILL YOU CONSIDER SERVING AS A COUNSELOR for the Franklin Graham Decision America Tar Heel State Tour? The Christian Life and Witness Course (CLWC) will equip you with practical ways to tell others about Jesus Christ and pray with those who want to make a decision for Him – during the event in your city or on your own. Whether you’ve shared the Gospel many times or you’re new to witnessing, CLWC will help you share Jesus and deepen your own faith in Him. Choose one of the following dates when you would like to attend the Christian Life and Witness Course (**no registration required**), which is one of three simple steps necessary to become a counselor.

September 21
9AM – 12PM
Safe Harbor
112 2nd Ave. SE
Hickory, NC 28602

September 23
6 – 9 PM
Viewmont Baptist Church
1246 2nd Street NE (HWY 127N)
Hickory, NC 28601

At the session, you will receive an application to complete prior to the end of the session. You must attend the class and turn in the application at that time to be considered as a counselor. Unfortunately, not all applicants are guaranteed a position. During the class, you will also be given a website link to a form that will grant permission to complete a background check. This check is a critical part of the process, so that the ministry can provide the best environment for those who are making decisions for Christ. All counselor applicants will be notified of final decisions, and given instructions for next steps. Thank you for your heart to serve. We’re grateful for your willingness and your patience as you complete the application steps. If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to email decisionamericatour@billygraham.org.

THE CAROLINAS LUTHERAN WOMEN will hold their Annual Convocation on Saturday, September 28, at Concordia Lutheran Church, China Grove. All women are welcome to attend. The theme is “Sisters in Christ: Sweet Spirits”. Registration and light refreshments begin at 9:30 AM and the Convocation begins at 10:00 AM. The registration fee is \$8.00 and that includes lunch. The registration form can be found online at www.carolinaslutheranwomen.org. The form and your money should be mailed to Kay Weaver, c/o New Jerusalem Lutheran Church, 2120 Startown Road, Hickory, NC 28602 no later than September 18. In-kind gifts of non-perishable foods will be collected and donated to the Main Street Mission of China Grove, NC. An offering will also be taken and that is designated to One Church, One Child of Rowan County, NC.

BIRTHDAYS: Beverly Watts – September 12; Rose Marie Starr – September 18