



New Covenant welcomed alumni for Homecoming on January 7 to kick off the new year.

THE NEWSLETTER OF
NEW COVENANT SCHOOLS

QUID NOVI

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CHRISTIAN SCHOOL: WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

Part 1 of a series by John Heaton, Headmaster

The first thing that comes to mind when I think about Christian education is that I am a product of it. I never attended public schools and I did not attend a public university. That is not to say that I was enrolled in elite college-prep schools. Far from it. The Christian school I attended was founded in 1960 or so, just as the roiling ferment that became the 60s got underway. I was in the first grade in 1968, and my mother, who had suffered a divorce and had recently become a Christian, was horrified by the social rot she saw about her. She determined that I would attend a Christian school.

There were very few options, except for the little school run by the Presbyterian Church that we attended.

We had chapel every day, and memorized Bible verses by the dozens. Other than that, I'm not sure what was distinctly Christian about it. Christian schools in those days were often founded for the wrong reasons—to keep white and black people separated, and for many, "Christian" was an undefined additive that had not been thought through very well. After all, until the early sixties, all schools were "Christian" insofar as prayer was allowed and the Bible was freely read.

After the second world war, my spiritual forebears understood that something was wrong in the culture, and they were correct in their assessment that society would dramatically change, if not unravel in the decades to come. Some of

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WHAT'S NEW?

Chapel Talks

The Marie Macdonald Chapel at New Covenant is a special place. The chapel has been intentionally designed, and expresses our commitment to the centrality of faith in the life of our school. Many have toured the new renovation, and have asked questions about aspects of the building. For the next three Wednesday evenings (January 12, 19 and 26) the school is offering three lectures by **Headmaster Heaton** on how the Bible describes the building of the world, and how chapel architecture communicates the Scripture's major themes. You are invited to join the school community for a dinner of soup and sandwiches beginning at 5:30pm in the GS Commons. The lecture will follow dinner and will conclude with Evensong in the chapel. This week's lecture is, "How the World Was Built: What Does the Chapel Say?" There is no charge for dinner, children are welcome, and childcare will be provided in the kindergarten commons for students in grades K-4. Visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084BAFAB2CA3F58-chapel> to let us know you are coming.

THINK. LEARN. LOVE. LIVE.

H O N O R A R I A

Panache Presents

You Can't Take It With You

SHOW DATES

January 28 & 29
February 4 & 5
7:00pm

Adults \$10
Students \$7

Please email or call Tiffany Fulcher
at 847-8313 to reserve your seats

FUNDRAISING REPORT

	GOAL	PREVIOUSLY	THIS WEEK
Annual Fund	\$80,000	\$9,359	\$12,034
General Scholarship	\$10,000	\$4,740	\$9,865
Foundation (65% state tax credit received with this gift)	\$200,000	Pledged \$281,000 Received \$67,882	\$426,500 \$273,882
Permanent Things Campaign— Stage I and II	\$1,000,000	Chapel \$582,200 Classrooms \$406,030 TOTAL \$988,230	Chapel \$584,395 Classrooms \$460,400 TOTAL \$1,044,795



Goals	Given	Total
200@ \$100	74	\$7,400
50@ \$500	22	\$11,000
15@ \$1,000	32	\$32,000
10@ \$5,000	8	\$40,000
5@ \$10,000	3	\$30,000
2@ \$20,000	2	\$40,000
2@ \$50,000	2	\$100,000
2@ \$100,000	2	\$200,000

GIVING IS EASY

You can find a way to give that fits your financial ability. Using the chart to the left, consider the level at which you could participate. A one-time gift is welcome, but you might consider leveraging a larger gift by structuring it over a three-year period. Gifts of appreciated stock can be easily transferred, and, for qualified individuals, required minimum distributions from IRA's can also be routed to the campaign. Contact **Dayna Renalds** at drenalds@newcovenantschools.org for assistance.

ETCETERA

EVERYONE

TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TAP) - DEADLINE JANUARY 15

This is your last week to apply for tuition assistance for 2022-23! Please refer to an email sent out on **October 25, 2021** for instructions.

CONTINUOUS ENROLLMENT CONTRACT

In order to simplify reenrollment, you signed a Continuous Enrollment Contract for your child which was the last contract that you will have to sign while your child is a student at New Covenant. **YOU WILL NOT BE ASKED TO REENROLL FOR NEXT YEAR.** Your student will be automatically enrolled each year until graduation or until you tell us otherwise. **The opt-out deadline for enrollment for the 2022-23 school year is February 1, 2022.** The Continuous Enrollment Fee of \$150 will be charged to your account on that date if you do not opt out. Please contact **Linda Hackenbracht** in the business office if your plans for next school year have changed.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

There will be no school **next Monday, January 17** in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr.

ACADEMIC TESTING

Students in grades 2-9 will sit for CTP-5 testing **next Tuesday-Friday, January 18-21.** Please help your students have the best experience by bringing them to school on time, and avoiding unnecessary appointments, absences, and early dismissals.

SCHOOL CLOSING OR DELAY

All information regarding schoolwide closings or delays related to weather will be communicated via email as well as reported to ABC News 13 and their online closings list. A decision to close or delay school will be made by the Headmaster by 6:00am. If you are unable to get to school because of unplowed roads, your child's absence will be excused. Please note that our families and faculty are spread out over several counties; therefore, our decision to delay or cancel may be based on conditions different from those you see outside your own home.

CUSTODIAL POSITION

We are in need of a custodian for the Workman Field House, who cleans and maintains the floors, storage and the Fitness Center. Training is offered and will involve 15 hours per week in the evenings. This position might be perfect for a local college student who wishes to be involved in the athletic world and needs only a part-time job. Please tell your friends or anyone you think might be interested. Contact Facilities Manager **Darren Johnson** at djohnson@newcovenantschools.org to apply.

LUNCH ORDERING

You may now order February lunches for your students. The ordering window will be open through **Friday, January 21.**

THANK YOU

Over 100 of our family households participated in the Kroger community

rewards program last quarter. **New Covenant Schools was the recipient of \$736!** Thank you to all who participated. To link your Kroger plus card with New Covenant Schools, visit www.kroger.com to create an account or sign in and choose community rewards. Our organization code is IX901.

SCHOOL OF RHETORIC

SOR COTILLION

The School of Rhetoric will have their annual Cotillion on **Saturday, January 22** at 7pm at Tresca on 8th. The address is 724 Commerce St., Lynchburg, VA 24504.



Seniors enjoy Christmas party activities on the last day of school before the break.



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them were visionaries, but few in their generation had thought through the idea of the Christian school. Naturally they were easily branded as reactionary at best, and racist at worst.

Names like C.S. Lewis were not common in Christian circles, and we did not know that Narnia existed. Those were rough years. The cultural ferment that challenged authority shaped a generation of children, and try as they might our parents could not completely shield us from it. From 1965 up through the mid-eighties, it seemed that the dominant paradigm of child development led parents to expect that students would inevitably enter a stage of rebellion against their authority and the moral teaching of the church. Drugs were accessible in my Christian high school, and promiscuity among teens was rampant. Of course, in broader culture, both were considered somewhat normal. Although it sparked outrage, the culture war front at that time centered around the establishment of smoking areas on high school campuses, supported, of course, by their left-wing faculties.

Christian schools were not consumed with education; often their curriculum was a wholesale transfer of what the public school was doing academically. The real agenda, beyond that of race in some cases, was protection from immorality. The project has had mixed results at best. Christian young people, then as now, are statistically indistinguishable from their secular peers on moral behaviors, in spite of what they might actually confess.

Evangelical culture was soaked in this stuff and parents like mine entered those years with a lot of fear. And rightly so. One of my closest friends in high school died before age 21. Drug abuse, divorce, promiscuity, and incarceration affected members of my family and extended family. As a middle-aged man, I realize that our family wasn't worse than others;

it was just so much collateral damage far too common in a large war waged on many fronts.

In the mid-1950s a Presbyterian minister named Francis Shaeffer moved to Europe and had begun a ministry of hospitality and friendship to dislocated dropouts from my generation. He founded and lectured at the L'Abri Institute (French for "The Shelter"), and by the 1970s he had succeeded in popularizing some of the essential claims of the Christian faith, responding to the hard questions posed by so many disillusioned young people. Shaeffer forcefully articulated the idea that there were certain presuppositions—pre-conditions of thought that everyone possessed—which were taken for granted but not always thought through. Diverse ideas—about God, man, creation, the human condition—all contained unarticulated assumptions, which, if taken to their logical ends, led to very different conclusions.

Shaeffer became a popular lecturer and college students in the 70s and 80s discovered him, along with C.S. Lewis and other writers. Through their influence the idea of "Christian Worldview" was born. It was part of the foundational, intellectual firepower that was distinctively lacking in Christian schools which had become legion across the country by 1980. By the time the 80s were over, everyone in Christian education talked about "Christian Worldview," even those who were not from Shaeffer's tradition, including Jerry Falwell, who was his personal friend. In fact, the founding of the Moral Majority in 1984 was a direct result of the influence that Shaeffer had on his thinking.

To summarize, Christian education was, in its infancy, a movement largely



retreating from society and culture, fueled by fears of losing a generation of Christian children to moral degradation, and by overwhelmingly apocalyptic views of Armageddon.

These fears justified a posture that abandoned engagement with broader culture, but which in most cases did not supply a quality education. Christian educators and thinkers would have to find a firmer footing for the Christian school, both intellectually and religiously. I'll explore that in the next edition of *QUID NOVI*.

QUID NOVI

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CLASS OF 2022 • Amy Bonebright
• Dr. Tim Brophy • Leslie Moeller
• Bob Price • Dan Vollmer • CLASS OF
2023 • Nancy Hall • Kristin Hampton
• Sam Mizener • Tom Rogers
• Anne Umbarger • Darryl Whitesell
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EX OFFICIO
Rev'd John Heaton

OUR MISSION

New Covenant Schools is an educational community serving families of Central Virginia, providing an exceptional education in a classical curriculum within the framework of historic Christianity, furnishing the student with the tools of education and the inspiration to be a lifelong learner.

new covenant schools



Naomi Johnson (1st Grade), 2021 Submission

ART FAIR

FRIDAY
March
4th

ALL submissions due
Wednesday February 9th

IMPORTANT TIPS FOR ART FAIR SUBMISSIONS:

- Students in K-12th grade may submit TWO PIECES of art in each of the above categories.
- Student work grades 4-12 will be in the judged art show.
- All submissions should be given directly to Mr. Dunaway.
- Flat (2D) submissions should NOT be folded or on lined paper.
- Submissions MUST be unframed.
- All photography should be printed on photo quality paper (preferably 8 ½ x 11 or larger).
- Sculpture (3D) submissions should stand upright OR student should provide a base on which to stand the piece.
- Lego submissions will kindly NOT be accepted.
- ALL pieces should be the creation of the student(s).
- Multiple students may collaborate on a single submission.

PAINTING
MIXED MEDIA
SCULPTURE
PHOTOGRAPHY
FILM

Parents who would like to volunteer to mat/ hang work please
contact Michael Dunaway mdunaway@newcovenantschools.org

NEW COVENANT SCHOOLS

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2022 – 2023 Academic Calendar – Key Dates

New Covenant Schools sets its academic calendar as far in advance as is reasonably foreseeable.

This list **may not include all half days** and is subject to change for unforeseen events.

Convocation	Sunday, August 14
School of Rhetoric First Day of School , 8:00am start Grammar & Middle School Meet Your Teacher 3:30-6:00pm	Monday, August 15
PreK – 8th Grade First Day of School (12pm dismissal for PreK, K – 1 st grade)	Wednesday, August 17
Labor Day, No School	Monday, September 5
Half Day, 12pm Dismissal Fall Break	Thursday, October 13 Friday - Monday, October 14-17
K-12 Parent Teacher Conferences (Students Do Not Attend)	Tuesday, November 1
Thanksgiving Break	November 21 - November 25
11am Dismissal, Christmas Break Begins Christmas Break	Friday, December 16 December 19 – January 3
Martin Luther King Day, No School	Monday, January 16
Winter Break	Thursday-Tuesday, February 9-14
Half Day, 12pm Dismissal Spring Break	Friday, March 10 Monday – Friday, March 13-17
Maundy Thursday, 12pm Dismissal Easter Break	Thursday, April 6 Friday – Monday, April 7 – 10
May Breather	Friday, May 5
School of Rhetoric Last Day (3pm Dismissal) Middle School Last Day (12pm Dismissal) K – Graduation & Grammar School Last Day (12pm Dismissal)	Wednesday, May 24 Thursday, May 25 Friday, May 26
Graduation	Saturday, May 27
Senior Trip	Monday-Saturday, May 29-June 3