



The Charlottesville Ballet performed excerpts from the Nutcracker for the Grammar School last week.

THE NEWSLETTER OF
NEW COVENANT SCHOOLS

QUID NOVI

DECEMBER 5, 2022
VOL. 25 NO. 14 MAJORIS

IT'S TIME FOR THE ANNUAL SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS

by John Heaton, Headmaster

One of the oldest traditions at New Covenant has been the annual service of Lessons & Carols, which we will hold again on **Monday, December 12**. This will be the twenty-seventh performance by our combined band, choirs, and orchestra. By around seventh grade, after students have come through years of our music program, they have the facility on their chosen instrument to participate in this service.

Lessons & Carols is not an ancient tradition, and the first record of such a service was in 1880 at Truro Cathedral in Cornwall, England. The cathedral, the "newest" in England's history, was not yet completely

built, so the service was held next door in a wooden structure, which Anglicans refer to as a pro-cathedral. Bishop Edward White Benson, concerned at the excessive consumption of alcohol in Cornish pubs during the season, sought a means of attracting revellers out of the pubs and into church by offering a religious celebration of Christmas.

While the observance of Christmas is ancient, it was not the major holiday that corporate America has made it today. Christmas trees, while dating to 1500s, were only widely popularized in homes in the 18th and 19th centuries. Surprisingly, until the time

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A FESTIVAL OF
**NINE
LESSONS &
CAROLS**

PRESENTED BY THE COMBINED BANDS,
ORCHESTRAS AND CHOIRS OF
NEW COVENANT
SCHOOLS

DECEMBER 12, 2022 | 7:00 PM WAYMAKER CHURCH

THINK. LEARN. LOVE. LIVE.

H O N O R A R I A

JOIN US FOR NCS HOMECOMING 2023

Alumni are invited to join us for an alumni reception and basketball games on **Friday, January 6, 2023**. The reception will begin at 5:30pm, and the Gryphons will be playing at 6:00pm and 7:30pm. Please drop in anytime to visit with fellow alumni, faculty and staff. Refreshments and a gift will be provided. On Saturday January 7, the Workman Field House will be open for alumni pickup basketball games from 1:00-3:00pm. We look forward to seeing you!



Alumni gathered for the last year's 2022 NCS Homecoming Weekend.

NCS HOMECOMING 2023

Join us for refreshments, visit with fellow alumni and faculty, and receive a free gift. Then cheer on our Gryphons to victory!

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6

Alumni Reception: 5:30pm
Varsity Girls Basketball: 6:00pm
Varsity Boys Basketball: 7:30pm

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7

Open Gym for Alumni (WFH): 1:00-3:00pm

FUNDRAISING REPORT

	GOAL	RECEIVED
Permanent Things Campaign/Annual Fund	\$100,000	\$11,625
General Scholarship	\$10,000	\$20,527
Foundation	\$300,000	<i>Pledged</i> \$359,570 <i>Received</i> \$148,429

GIVING IS EASY

Please consider New Covenant Schools in your giving. All gifts are tax-deductible to the extent that the law provides. Donations may be given through cash, check, stock transfers or IRA distributions. Contact **Dayna Renalds** in the Development Office for more information.

E T C E T E R A

EVERYONE

LESSONS & CAROLS

Join us for our annual service of Lessons & Carols on **Monday, December 12 at 7:00pm** at Waymaker.Church (1650 Hooper Road, Forest, VA). A combined School of Rhetoric band, orchestra and choir will be performing with participation from 7th & 8th grade students. All are welcome! Childcare is available for children birth to 4 years old. Cookies and coffee will be served before the service.

DELAYED START TIME

New Covenant Schools will open on **December 13 at 9:00am**. *Students should arrive no earlier than 8:30am.*

5TH AND 6TH GRADE CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Join the 5th & 6th grade orchestra, band and chorus classes on **Tuesday, December 13 at 11:00am** in the Marie Macdonald Chapel for the 5th & 6th grade Middle School Christmas Concert.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The Grammar School Christmas Program (grades PreK-4) will be held **Friday, December 16 at 8:15am** in the Moomaw Center.

LUNCH ORDERING

Lunch order for January is now open. The last day to order is **Friday, December 16**. Don't miss out because we are serving loaded baked potatoes every Tuesday in January. For those of you who enrolled your child in the school milk plan, your Prepay Lunch Account will be charged \$35 when we return in January for the third quarter of school.

HEAVENLY HATS

On **Wednesday, December 14**, the 8th Grade Student Council has planned an event to support Heavenly Hats. Middle School students are invited to come to school with \$1 and their favorite hats—especially Christmas-themed if you have them! The proceeds will go to the Heavenly Hats organization. This organization provides hats to cancer patients all over the U.S. If you would like more information about the organization, go to www.heavenlyhats.org.

GIVENS BOOKS & AMAZON SMILE

This holiday season, as you plan your gift list, consider supporting our school library through purchases made at Givens. Please make sure that you mention New Covenant Schools to the cashier as you check out, and 3% of your purchase will go to our library. Also, don't forget to shop AmazonSmile.com, and make sure your account is linked to New Covenant Schools.

CHRISTMAS BREAK

The end of the 2nd quarter and the beginning of Christmas Break is on **Friday, December 16**. We will have a **11:00am dismissal on the 16th** and school will break for Christmas through **Tuesday, January 3** with students returning on **Wednesday, January 4**.

CUSTODIAL POSITION

NCS has a custodial position immediately available for 3-4 hours in the evening Monday through Friday. If you or someone you know would be interested, please contact Darren Johnson at djohnson@newcovenantschools.org or 434-665-9574.



YEARBOOK: CALL FOR PHOTOS

The yearbook team needs photos for our "Summer 2022 Vacations" section. If you have photos of your family on vacation last summer that you'd be willing to share for possible inclusion in the yearbook, please email them—with photo info—to yearbook advisor **Mark Hernandez** at mhernandez@newcovenantschools.org. Or upload to hjshare.com/eShare. Use code: NCS1991.

TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TAP)

The tuition assistance program (TAP) for 2023-24 school year is now open and will remain open until **January 15**. There is high demand for assistance, and it is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis, so apply early! Go to <https://online.factsmgt.com/aid> to apply. Please note that once you submit an application, you need to check your email often because FACTS may request additional information. Your application is not considered complete until FACTS has all required tax documents.

LOST AND FOUND

All items left unclaimed in the lost and found will be purged and donated on **December 16**. When visiting our campus during any of our holiday events, please take the time to check for any of your family's personal items.



BASKETBALL SCORES

Tuesday, November 29

JV BOYS

Blue Ridge School.....	55
New Covenant.....	24

VARSITY BOYS

Blue Ridge School.....	65
New Covenant.....	25

VARSITY GIRLS

Roanoke Valley.....	44
New Covenant.....	36

Thursday, December 1

MS GIRLS

North Cross.....	25
New Covenant.....	11

MS BOYS

North Cross.....	21
New Covenant.....	18

VARSITY GIRLS

New Covenant.....	40
SWVA.....	55

VARSITY BOYS

New Covenant.....	64
SWVA.....	37

Friday, December 2

MS GIRLS

Covenant School.....	4
New Covenant.....	16

JV GIRLS

Covenant School.....	30
New Covenant.....	5

VARSITY GIRLS

Covenant School.....	51
New Covenant.....	9

Saturday, December 3

JV BOYS

Woodberry Forest.....	56
New Covenant.....	19

VARSITY BOYS

Woodberry Forest.....	76
New Covenant.....	45

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of Bishop Benson, many “Christmas” carols were secular in nature, and therefore excluded from Christian worship. They were sung lustily in pubs and restricted to carolers who sang them as they moved from house to house in the small villages and towns.

Bishop Benson, however, started a new thing, and after he was appointed Archbishop of Canterbury in 1888, the service began to catch on in England. In 1918, the Rev. Eric Milner-White, dean of King’s College, Cambridge, introduced the service to the college chapel, taking advantage of the established choral tradition of the Choir of King’s College, a choir that had sung daily services since 1449! It proved highly successful and began an annual tradition. The BBC began to broadcast the service on the radio from 1928 and on television from 1954, establishing *Carols from King’s* as the most popular and widely recognized presentation of the service.

Today, our own program serves several ends. First, it connects our students to our deep Christian tradition. It makes them participants in a service which arguably contributed to the significance of Christmas as a Christian holiday in the modern era, second only to Easter in its importance. Next, as the students work with their instructors for weeks before the service, they study a nourishing body of music that adds to their musical repertoire and develops their skills. Finally, as the students offer their work in the service, they experience the joy of directly contributing to the school as a worshipping community.

Our service includes student participation beginning in grade 7. Younger students will hold their own programs in separate venues on campus



(see Et Cetera). However, the service is not merely for parents of students in those grades. This gathering is intended as a moment for our whole school community to come together in celebration. Thus, child care for children aged infant to four years is provided at no charge, and coffee and cookies are offered before the service. This year’s Lessons & Carols will be held at Waymaker.Church beginning at 7 pm. Your family is encouraged to attend.



QUID NOVI

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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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