

NEW COVENANT schools

JUNE 12, 2023 | VOL. 26 NO. 1

QUID NOVI

SUMMER EDITION

INSIDE

Class of 2023 Honors

Thanks to Donors

Faculty/Staff Transitions

Alumni News

and more



THINK. LEARN. LOVE. LIVE.



WHAT'S NEW?

by John Heaton, Headmaster

We have always claimed that a classical, Christian education provides a broad range of opportunities and interests for children at the youngest ages and through the high school years. When students graduate from such a program, they are by no means specialists in any given discipline, but they have been required to engage with literature, music, art, drama, mathematics, science and language. Of course, not every student enjoys every subject to the same degree, but our experience has been characterized less by boredom, and more by that of surprise. Since a classical, Christian program is very prescriptive, requiring students to take classes in areas they might otherwise avoid, we find that they often discover a love for something they were not expecting. In many cases the joy of that discovery influenced a student's college and career path.

Founded in 1991, New Covenant just concluded its thirty-second year. During the past three decades we have relentlessly pursued the depth of our programming and the expansion of our facilities to bring the unexpected surprises that come with exploration to hundreds of students. Here are a few highlights of projects that added value to the New Covenant program this year.

In October 2022 the Permanent Things Campaign provided funds to add two new classrooms for use the by School of Rhetoric (see photos, p. 6). The classrooms were designed both with appropriate technology and with an eye to aesthetics for a pleasing learning experience. Further, the rooms were appointed with furniture that easily converts from lecture to seminar format to facilitate group discussion. The classrooms were completed at a cost of \$417,266 and were completely paid for with donated funds.

The Permanent Things Campaign has also raised the necessary funds to develop an outdoor workout

facility on "back campus" below the service drive (see p. 6). This facility is an outdoor adjunct to the Workman-Hall Fitness Center and will be accessed by stairs just a few steps away from that facility. A workout station will be installed with 26 activity stations servicing more than 30 athletes at a time. A tennis wall, basketball court, and discus and shot put stations will be included as well. This project begins as we go to print and is scheduled to be open by the first day of school in August 2023.

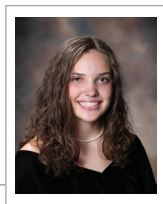
The New Covenant library is a very visible part of the campus. Through a generous grant from the McCurdy Family Foundation a listening station was created and installed in the bay window overlooking the courtyard. The station was designed for our youngest students to use small laptops on which books from the library have been recorded. Students can read and listen to books during their library time. The listening station was created and installed by New Covenant parent, **Toby Davies** (Ainsley-3rd; Ember-1st), whose notable skills have provided a beautiful addition to the library space.



Finally, the Moomaw Center underwent an upgrade to its lighting system with eight new theater lights installed in the ceiling. For the past twenty years, the drama troupe has relied on light trees, which provided reliable but limited light options. The two trees also required great care in setup and breakdown, as well as "fencing" trip hazards for guests to theater productions. The new lighting is remotely controlled, and takes advantage of LED technology with nearly infinite lighting options.

Please take a few moments to browse this special edition of *QUID NOVI*, and accept our sincere thanks for your sustained support of classical, Christian education. In it you'll find a comprehensive list of all funds raised, together with notable achievements from students, faculty members and alumni.

H O N O R A R I A



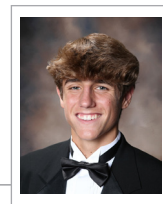
LYDIA CRAVEN

VALEDICTORIAN

Lydia Craven is a respected and integral part of her class and the entire New Covenant community. Her teachers, coaches and mentors quite agree, and thus it is only fitting that this introduction include their reflections and high esteem.

When asked to describe what makes Lydia distinct, several characteristics were offered: quiet-focused, sincerity, leadership, resilience, others-orientation, calmness, dependability, and intellectual vigor. Her leadership is most noticeable in her position on the House Council, where she served as vice president and treasurer. Her hard work in this capacity greatly benefited the school. On the volleyball team, she led with the same calm resolve: she had a knack for setting realistic goals that challenged the team and she mentored younger players. She led quietly, calmly, dependably, and with a heart towards the betterment of the team over self-adulation. Lydia's dependability was also evident in her senior thesis process, where she responded positively to feedback from her advisors and she ably adapted when she had a last-minute substitute second reader.

What stands out about Lydia, however, is her sincere desire to gain understanding. In AP Literature Lydia's desire to truly understand emboldened her to risk taking unpopular positions in class discussions, while also keeping her humble enough to carefully weigh opposing arguments. Lydia even met outside of class to further discuss a book we had studied because she simply wanted to better understand the text. In a world that often prizes the loudest voice and the easiest path, Lydia's calm, quiet resolve and desire to learn makes her unique.



KADEN NEWSOME

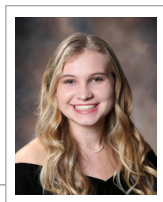
SALUTATORIAN

There is a kind of stereotype often associated with excellent scholars. You know the type—quiet, unassuming, focused only on their studies, perhaps a little socially awkward. However, **Kaden Newsome** wears his scholarship very lightly. In tenth grade he was a Classic Learning Test Distinguished Scholar and also achieved *magna cum laude* on the National Latin Exam. He especially loves math and science, and even took two math courses his junior year, just for fun. He also earned the annual Math/Science Award.

Kaden is often thought of as an athlete. He has played on our soccer team all four years, winning the MVP award in both sophomore and junior years and also earning a place on the All-Conference First Team last year and both All-Conference and All-State First Teams this year. He went out for the track team this spring, even though he had never participated in a track meet before. He set new school records in two events and qualified for the state meet in high jump, earning a place on the All-Conference First Team in track as well.

A joking character, Kaden had a major role in the planning and execution of this year's April Fools pranks, along with his large circle of friends. He has shown growth in wisdom and maturity that speaks to a different kind of character, one who is looking ahead to a larger world and is ready to take his place in it. He breaks all the stereotypes and is definitely his own man, one who will continue to surprise us all with his accomplishments as he continues to "grow in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man."

H O N O R A R I A

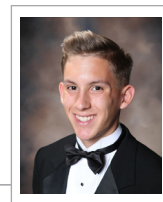


JENNA HACKENBRACHT

EXCELLENCE IN CLASSICAL LANGUAGE

As a Classical Christian School, New Covenant offers its students the unique opportunity to study ancient Latin and Greek, giving them insight into our cultural and linguistic past. In Latin we translate and discuss excerpts of Cicero’s speeches, Caesar’s De Bello Gallico, Vergil’s Aeneid, and the Vulgate Bible, including the Apostles’ Creed and John I. In Greek we translate and discuss texts from the Gospels, the letters of St. Paul, the Apocrypha, and the Nicene and Chalcedonian Creeds. Both our Latin and Greek curricula contain texts that have defined orthodox Christology for more than 1700 years, have provided the basis for the political liberty that eventually flourished in the West, and have left their mark in our culture within art, music and modern literature.

This year the Classical Language Award is granted to a senior who has accumulated five years of high-school-level classical language. Through years of Latin and Greek, this student has demonstrated competency, dedication and facility in the study of ancient languages as reflected in their grade average, their overall reading ability, and their curiosity for understanding the ancient world and its literature. We congratulate the Classical Language Award winner, **Jenna Hackenbracht**.



VAN CURRAN

EXCELLENCE IN FINE ARTS AWARD

Skilled artists are invitational in their craftsmanship, encouraging others to see, hear, and interact with the world as they perceive it. To successfully communicate their own perceptions, artists must gain access to the heart, the residence of reflection, emotion and desire. This is no easy task, for they must first be moved themselves, with deep appreciation for their subject, commitment to close study, and dedication to development of their craft.

The recipient of the Class of 2023 Fine Arts Award does indeed reflect these traits. He is captivated by music and is careful to learn from great composers, local artists, and mentors here at school. Throughout his high school experience, he has moved into realms of uncharted territory – successfully completing two music programs, developing facility with several instruments, and most recently composing his original piece entitled “Adieu” and performing it alongside his fellow musicians. He also plays in the University of Lynchburg Chamber Orchestra. His next step leads him to the Conservatory of Music at Biola University where he will undoubtedly live out their motto “Be Brilliant for Christ” just as he’s done here in our community. We celebrate **Van Curran**, recipient of the 2023 Fine Arts Award.

The ‘Excellence Awards’ span the various disciplines in Classical Languages, Fine Arts, Mathematics/Science and Humanities. They are presented to members of the senior class who have, over their high school careers, demonstrated both an aptitude for that discipline, and an interest that sets them apart from their peers in the minds of the faculty.

H O N O R A R I A



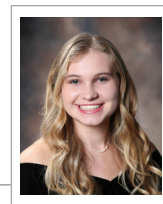
KADEN NEWSOME

EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCES AWARD

In the true liberal arts tradition, the New Covenant School of Rhetoric has a comprehensive math and science program, offering eleven high school mathematics and science courses. These are ancient terms, mathematics and science, the first from the Greek word *mathema* and the other from the Latin *scientia*, both meaning knowledge or that which we come to know. Plato stated that “the study of mathematics leads the mind toward pure reason and cultivates the true love of wisdom” and we affirm this as we present the Excellence in Mathematics & Science Award each year to recognize a student who has consistently demonstrated both an interest in and a keen ability with these subjects.

It would be an understatement to say that this year’s recipient is inquisitive and enthusiastic. He has an eager interest that is contagious. He wants to know what’s beyond the surface of the idea, drawing conclusions and making connections. In AP Calculus, he spent his free time watching videos of concepts not yet taught (even examples well beyond AP Calculus AB). On the final project of the year, he was not satisfied to simply fulfill the requirements; he wanted to have fun with it, investigating math beyond what we had done in class, including integrating a piecewise function. He will certainly continue his excitement for all things math and science in his college career.

The Excellence in Mathematics and Science Award is presented this year to **Kaden Newsome**.



JENNA HACKENBRACHT

EXCELLENCE IN HUMANITIES AWARD

The English poet Matthew Arnold wrote that a superior education is one that introduces people to “the best that has been thought and said.” At New Covenant, we aspire to this, setting before our students patterns of excellence and incentives to noble action, inspiring them with the elevating power of the classical, Christian tradition, the love for which sharpens moral vision and forms strong character. Therefore, the Humanities Award is given annually to the student who exhibits an extraordinary delight and talent in the study of literature, history and theology.

The Humanities Award is given to a student who has been an outstanding scholar of the written and spoken word. She is a diligent reader, combining her interests and requirements whenever possible. During class discussions, her depth of knowledge and willingness to share her wisdom set her apart. This student approaches the study of history with enthusiasm and delight, engaging even difficult moments in the past with curiosity and a desire to understand. She has a well-developed sense of justice and rightness, which she applies thoughtfully when evaluating the past. She writes with eloquence, insight and excellence, dissecting historical events and the people who shaped them with precision and nuance. Her love of the humanities was manifested in her senior thesis topic, which explored the impact of Prince Albert on the British monarchy. The recipient of this award is **Jenna Hackenbracht**.

H O N O R A R I A



JAEL BRENNING

ARETE AWARD

The New Covenant Schools' Arete Award has been established in honor and memory of one of the founding faculty members of our school, Dr. Timothy Diebler, who embodied the excellence which this award recognizes and which we hope to inspire within all who walk these halls.

The Greek word arete means "virtue" or "excellence," in particular excellence in those qualities that make something distinctive. So, the arete of a cello is the optimal beauty of the sounds a cello can make; the arete of a horse is the power and speed unique to that animal; the arete of a human being is virtue and wisdom. What is the arete of a New Covenant student?

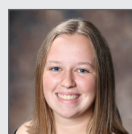
The Arete Award is given to a senior who, in the opinion of the faculty, best exemplifies New Covenant's "Portrait of the Graduate." Such a student is prudent in speech and action; is generous and rich in good works; is a lover of truth, goodness and beauty; is eloquent with the written and spoken word; is spiritually strong, looking to God in faith, hope and love; is intellectually vigorous, seeking to know God, self and the world; and encounters success with humility and failure with confidence.

This year's recipient is recognized by the faculty for excellent academics and a strong dedication to her peers. She doesn't just attend class but seeks to gain wisdom and genuine understanding from course materials. Her respect for her teachers cultivates a spirit of collegiality. Likewise, her magnanimity toward her teammates inspires them to greater community and success on the court and field. Her humility and charity towards those in her life convey her sincerely altruistic nature. She cares deeply for all, especially "the least of these." The Arete Award is presented to **Jael Brenning**.

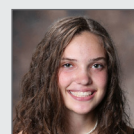
SENIOR ACADEMIC AWARDS

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

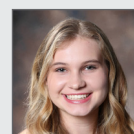
Distinction of a GPA of 4.50 or higher for career.



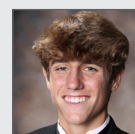
Jael Brenning



Lydia Craven



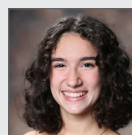
Jenna Hackenbracht



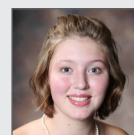
Kaden Newsome

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

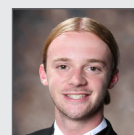
Distinction of a GPA between 4.20 and 4.50 for career.



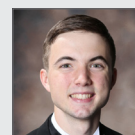
Rebekah Bryant



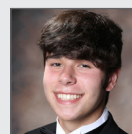
Abigail Place



Jude Vollmer



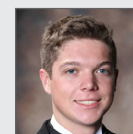
Will Kittrell



Waylon Spiva



Nate Kirshberger



Jackson Taylor



H O N O R A R I A

HONORS FOR 2022-2023 YEAR SCHOOL OF RHETORIC

THE HEADMASTER'S LIST

Summa cum laude

Will Kittrell, 12	Kaden Newsome, 12	Jenna Hackenbracht, 12	Waylon Spiva, 12
Jael Brenning, 12	Lydia Craven, 12	Beau Brady, 11	Noah Caldwell, 11
Nicole Clark, 11	Virginia Morse, 11	Ally Horne, 11	Saria Hostetler, 11
Olivia Kidd, 11	Diego Leal, 11	Mary Glenn Morse, 11	John Brophy, 10
Corey Hackenbracht, 10	Cora Helm, 10	Ellie Jacobs, 10	Melia Leitner, 10
Jenna Ng, 10	Brey Welch, 10	Enoch Tan, 9	Grace Brady, 9
Joy Basten, 9	Ashe Smith, 9		

THE DEAN'S LIST

Magna cum laude

Van Curran, 12	Abigail Place, 12	Rebekah Bryant, 12	Nate Kirshberger, 12
Adora Hampton, 11	Caleb McCormick, 11	Andrew Rogers, 11	Brielle Walker, 11
Sarah Robert, 11	Abby Rose, 11	Charlotte Seay, 11	Claire Copenhaver, 11
James Brophy, 10	Mary Kate Place, 10	Declund Stevenson, 10	Lizzie Bryant, 10
Noah McCormick, 10	Reese Murphy, 10	Elizabeth Deneen, 10	Jocelyn Walker, 10
Serah Jones, 10	John Scruggs, 10	Jack Duncan, 10	Graden Bolton, 9
Alicia Kenny, 9	Walt Gill, 9	Charlotte Morse, 9	Eva Andrade, 9
Breezy Knight, 9	Ryleigh Taylor, 9	Andre Frenchik, 9	Olivia Hostetler, 9
Micah Xayavong, 9	Skye Heap, 9	Wyatt Renalds, 9	

Cum laude

Jackson Taylor, 12	Jude Vollmer, 12	Elizabeth Matney, 12	Dylan Abaidoo, 12
Jonathan Matney, 12	Kate McCurley, 11	Irelyn Uminn, 11	Mae Jacobs, 11
Colin Mather, 11	Micah Cortez, 11	Luke Libbey, 11	Abby Burton, 10
Graham Kowalski, 10	Emma Fritz, 10	Grace Hendricksen, 10	Carrington Thackston, 10
Rosa East, 9	Luke Cordes, 9	Gia Barlow, 9	Alara Gezen, 9
Stone Haibach, 9	Sarah McCurley, 9	Emma Kate Lovell, 9	

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Summa cum laude

Charlotte McCarty, 8	Joel Ng, 8	Emma Haupricht, 8	Shilo Binder, 8
Joseph Robert, 8	Luke Hottle, 8	Elora Williams, 8	Ian Gill, 8
Olivia Fries, 8	John Sorenson, 7	Christian Henson, 7	Naomi Rigg, 7
Peter Brophy, 7	Charis Durand, 7	Elena Andrade, 7	Kendall Morrell, 7

Magna cum laude

Ruby Helm, 8	Judah Weber, 8	Michael Seckman, 8	Avery Harrison, 8
Charlotte Libbey, 8	Ignatius Knebel, 8	Jonah Chernov, 8	Charlie Kershaw, 7
Jojo Deyo, 7	Joseph Lee, 7	Lucy Kirshberger, 7	Reese Mahle, 7
Ava Boettger, 7	Emma Christian, 7		

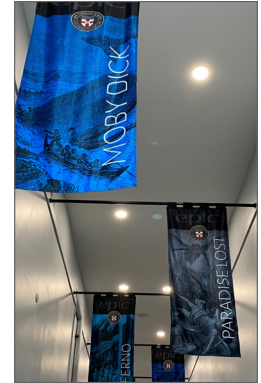
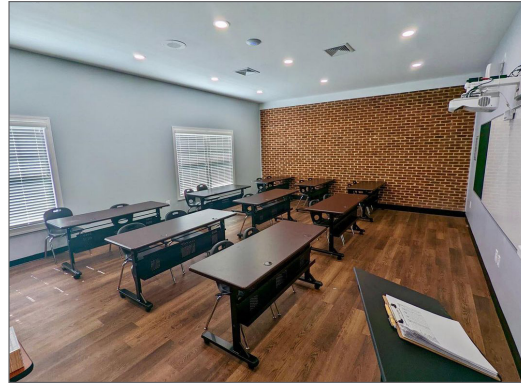
Cum laude

Alex Fuhr, 8	Embry Carlton, 8	John-Paul Gauger, 8	Lizzie Miller, 7
Britton Basten, 7	Claire Hansen, 7	Wyatt Cole, 7	Wyatt Copenhaver, 7
Elle Vollmer, 7	Alaina Hilton, 7	Xander Arbaugh-Turner, 7	Colton Buckner, 7



THE SOR EPIC HALLWAY

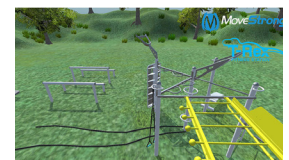
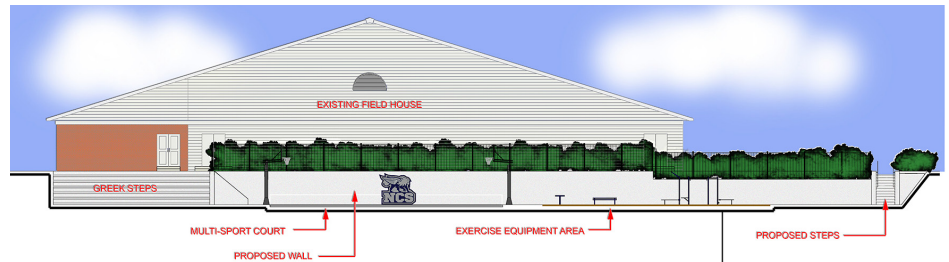
Two new School of Rhetoric classrooms were opened in October 2022. The new hallway celebrates the seven epics in the classical tradition, all of which we read, thus its name: The Epic Hallway. The classrooms serve as the core of our Literature Department.



COMING IN AUGUST

OUTDOOR WORKOUT FACILITY

Planned for the “back campus,” this facility will feature a workout station with 26 activity stations servicing more than 30 athletes at a time. It will also have a tennis wall and basketball court. Discus and shot put stations will be included for track and field training.



GRATIA

HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

The following lists of donors represent those who have given to New Covenant Schools during the current school year, June 1, 2022 to May 31, 2023. Our sincere gratitude is extended to the board of directors, our parents, grandparents, faculty, staff, and friends for their generosity.

The total amount raised from all campaigns below is \$984,658.

2022 - 2023 ANNUAL FUND GOAL \$100,000 | RAISED \$352,025

The following list represents gifts to the Annual Fund to maintain the day-to-day mission of the school, with tuition currently funding 100% of all operations. This year these funds were allocated to the third phase of the Permanent Things Campaign which seeks to retire the existing debt and add to the schools' reserves.

GUARDIAN

Anonymous
Edgar B. Rouse Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Brett Tucker
Mrs. Sandra van Burk

BENEFACTORS

Mr. and Mrs. Michael S. Christian
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Shaughnessy

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Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Durand
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Mike and Faye Loflin – *In honor of Nicholas, Lillian, and Matthew Richmond*
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Allegro Music School
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Mr. and Mrs. JW Burton

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Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Powell – *In honor of the Marotta family*
Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Rigg
Dr. Lowell B. Sykes – *In memory of Barbara Powell Sykes*
Mr. and Mrs. Hermann Ulrich
Mr. and Mrs. Kent Webster
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Welsh

FRIENDS

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Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Coleman – *In honor of Berkley & Graham Coleman*
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Creekmore
Mr. Ronald Dixon – *In honor of Zachary Dixon*
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Gilmore – *In honor of Richard Charles Gilmore, class of 2007*
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Haibach – *In honor of Stone Haibach*
Mrs. Linda Harris
Ms. Cora Harvey
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Krohn – *In honor of Dominic & Cameron Wertz*
Mr. and Mrs. Mickey Minnick
Ms. Margaret Owen – *In honor of Emily Elizabeth Troutman*
Dr. Laura and Mr. Scott Robert
Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Spruill
Mr. and Mrs. James Watson
Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Wertz – *In honor of Dominic and Cameron Wertz*
Mr. and Mrs. Vince Whorley

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Anonymous
Mr. and Mrs. Alex Barnett – *In honor of Elizabeth Grace Nagy*
Mr. and Mrs. Marcus Beavers
Mrs. Linda Coleman – *In honor of Berkley & Graham Coleman*
Mr. and Mrs. Monte Confer
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Crutcher – *In honor of the Deneen family*
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Dobbs – *In honor of Berkley Rae Coleman*
Dr. and Mrs. James Durand
Mrs. Karen Farmer – *In honor of Isabella Farmer*
Dr. Linda Farver
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Mr. Victor Galan
Mr. and Mrs. Keith Haney – *In honor of the McCormick family*
Mr. Jeffrey Helgeson
Ms. Faye Henson – *In honor of Christian Henson*
Dr. and Mrs. Kevin Hicks – *In memory of Ranny Aultice*
Mrs. Reta Hobbs
Mr. and Mrs. Barry Hudgins
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Mr. and Mrs. Scott Kowalski
Mrs. Carlene Lyford
Mr. and Mrs. John Neiderer
Col. and Mrs. David Perault
Mr. and Mrs. John Rayman
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Dr. and Mrs. Eric Sorenson – *In honor of John Sorenson*

Dr. and Mrs. James Stanley
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Mr. and Mrs. Marvin White

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Mr. and Mrs. Gene Bonebright – *In honor of the Bonebright kids*
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Mr. and Mrs. David Crist
Dr. and Mrs. Carl Curtis
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Mr. and Mrs. Richard Fuhr
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Johnson – *In honor of Naomi Johnson*
Mr. Michael Minnick
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Pendergast
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Reeve
Mr. and Mrs. Prescott Terrell – *In memory of Mary "Ranny" Aultice*
Dr. and Mrs. Tim VanVoorhis
Ms. Sherry Wobensmith – *In memory of Ray Sherwood*

GRATIA

2022 - 2023 ANNUAL FUND

(CONTINUED)

THE FOLLOWING GRANDPARENTS GAVE TO THE 2022-2023 ANNUAL FUND:

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Barnett
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Bartolomeo
Mr. and Mrs. Marcus Beavers
Mr. and Mrs. Gene Bonebright
Mr. and Mrs. JW Burton
Mr. and Mrs. Michael S. Christian
Mrs. Linda Coleman
Mr. and Mrs. Monte Confer

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Creekmore
Mr. and Mrs. David Crist
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Crutcher
Mr. Ronald Dixon
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Dobbs
Dr. and Mrs. James Durand
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Eubanks
Mrs. Karen Farmer
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Fitts
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Fuhr
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Haibach
Ms. Faye Henson

Mrs. Reta Hobbs
Mr. and Mrs. Barry Hudgins
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Johnson
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Krohn
Mike and Faye Loflin
Mrs. Carlene Lyford
Mrs. Sarah Moore
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Pendergast
Col. and Mrs. David Perault
Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Powell
Mr. and Mrs. John Rayman
Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Rigg

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Robinson
Mr. and Mrs. Terry Schwenke
Dr. and Mrs. Eric Sorenson
Mr. and Mrs. Cary Stokes
Mrs. Sandra van Burk
Mr. and Mrs. James Watson
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Welsh
Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Wertz
Mr. and Mrs. Keith White
Mr. and Mrs. Marvin White

2022 - 2023 SCHOLARSHIP FUND

GOAL \$10,000 | RAISED \$33,041

The following list represents gifts to the General Scholarship Fund.

Anonymous (2)
Rev'd and Mrs. Ron Cox
Mr. and Mrs. John Fees

Mr. and Mrs. Andy Flowers
Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Foster
John K. Henne Charitable Trust

Mr. and Mrs. Barry Ragland
Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Shaughnessy
Mr. and Mrs. Earl Weaver

Mrs. Phyllis Workman

2022 - 2023 RESTRICTED GIFTS

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GOAL: \$300,000 | RAISED: \$481,098

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2022-2023 HANDS & HEARTS CAMPAIGN HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

GOAL \$50,000 | RAISED \$57,265



The following list of donors represents gifts to Hands & Hearts Campaign (June 1, 2022 to May 31, 2023). Gifts to Hands & Hearts support the school and are used to fund projects with local and regional charitable organizations that relieve human needs and suffering. The student body, along with dozens of parent volunteers, make significant improvements to the campuses of multiple organizations in this annual project.

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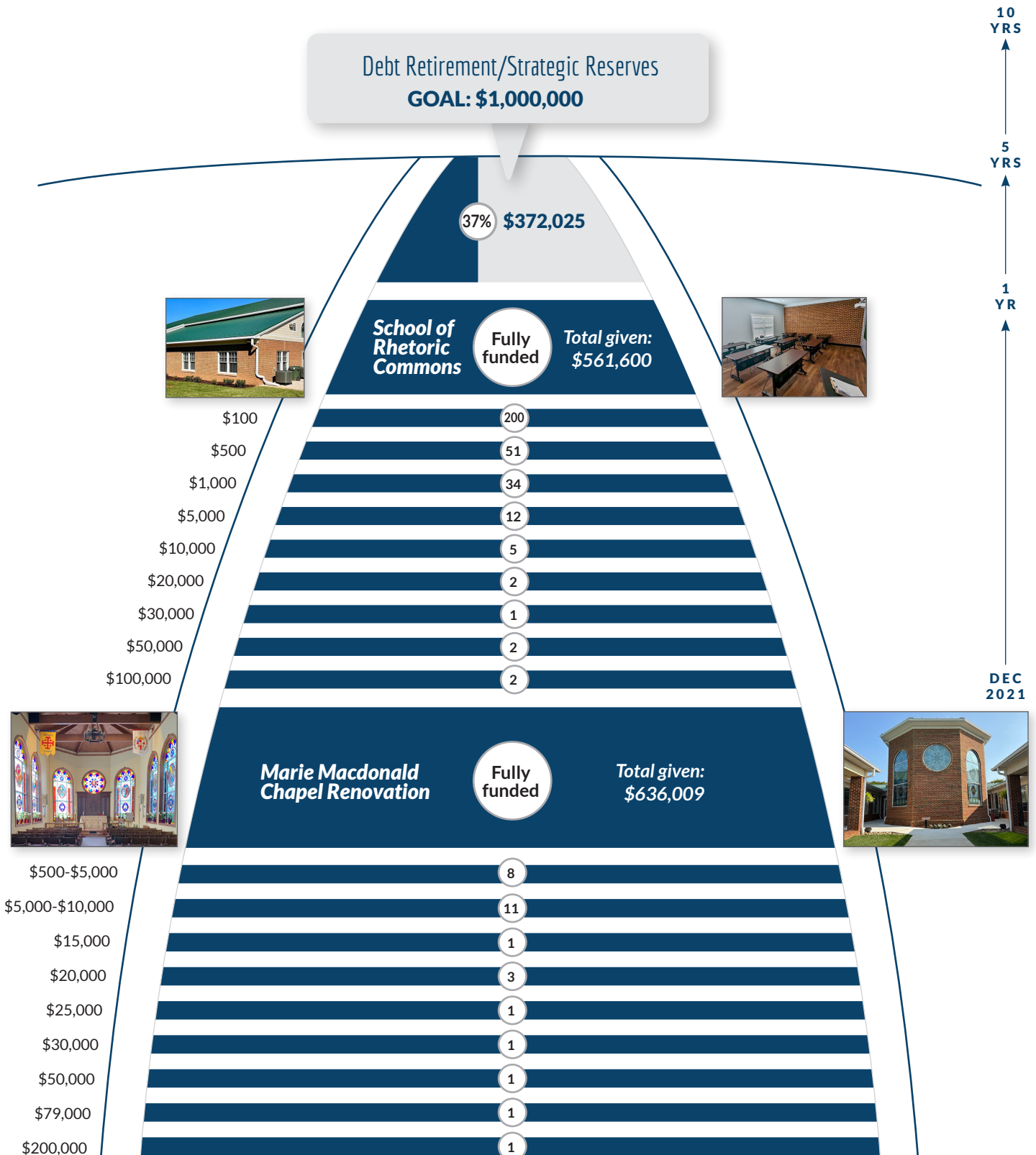
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PERMANENT THINGS CAMPAIGN
FINANCING PHASE IV: HOW WE REACH OUR 10-YEAR GOAL

\$1,569,634 RAISED TO DATE



T R A N S I T U S

CHANGES IN BOARD, FACULTY & STAFF FOR 2023-24

FAREWELLS



Bethany Caswell

Bethany Hartman Caswell (class of '12) gave birth to baby Eden in December 2022 and resigned her position in Middle School Bible and art to be a stay-at-home mom.



Davidson Morse

Fr. Davidson Morse is the Rector of All Saints Church, a growing and vibrant parish affiliated with New Covenant Schools. This year he will serve the parish full time, but will continue to serve part-time as the school Chaplain, holding

chapel and serving our parent community in a variety of ways, but will no longer have regular classroom duties.



Nancy Freerksen

School nurse, **Nancy Freerksen**, will be leaving her position to join the full-time nursing staff at Westminster-Canterbury.

WELCOME



Hattie Eshleman

Hattie Eshleman (class of '13) joined the faculty in December 2022 to teach Bible and art. Miss Eshleman attended James Madison University where she earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts, after which she worked as a

goldsmith for five years. Her art has been exhibited in Virginia, New York, California and Washington, DC. In 2019 Miss Eshleman participated in the World Race, a mission trip that took her to 11 countries in 11 months.



Noel Palmer

Noel Palmer becomes a full faculty member in the School of Dialectic (Middle School) this fall after adjunct teaching in science. Ms. Palmer is a graduate of Liberty University and

holds a Bachelor of Science in Biology and the Master of Education in Curriculum & Instruction: Middle Grades.

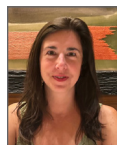


Lucas Stock

Lucas Stock joins the School of Rhetoric as Instructor in Theology. Mr. Stock holds the Bachelor of Arts in Pastoral Studies with a concentration in ministry to victims of sexual exploitation, and the

Master of Arts in Biblical and Theological Studies from Moody Bible Institute, Chicago. This spring he earned the Master of Divinity degree from Beeson Divinity School, Birmingham, AL, with a certificate in Anglican Studies. He and his wife Elaine relocated to Lynchburg this month.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Kristin Hampton

Kristin Hampton (Adora-12th; Bryce-7th) rotates off the Board of Directors after serving two terms. Kristin has been an active member of the board for six years, serving as its secretary. She has also worked

closely with the Headmaster, both as a member of the board's Policy Committee and on the Head Support and Evaluation Committee (HSEC).

MILESTONES

New Covenant celebrates faculty and staff members whose years of service is



Linda Hackenbracht

recognized and appreciated. **Linda Hackenbracht**, Director of Finance, has completed five years of service. Linda has been associated with the school for years and is the mother of four New Covenant students and

graduates, Derek ('19), Tessa ('21), Jenna ('23) and Corey (11th-'25).

T R A N S I T U S



Julie Neiderer

Strength trainer and physical education instructor **Julie Neiderer** completes five years. In addition to teaching physical education classes, Julie manages workout regimens for our students in pre-K



Sara Fritz

all the way to our varsity athletic teams. **Sara Fritz** (Emma-11th) is completing her fifth year as a full-faculty, having also served part-time in the library. **Cathy Hindman** (Tabitha-'10; Jack-'14; Andrew-'18)



Cathy Hindman

-marks twenty years of service, beginning her New Covenant career as the Volunteer Coordinator in 2003. A graduate of Sweet Briar College, she was quickly moved to the Grammar School faculty where



Kathryn Martin

she has taught across the grades and served as Lead Teacher and Curriculum Coordinator. **Kathryn Martin** has served New Covenant as a full-faculty member in the Grammar School and the School of Dialectic (middle school) for twenty-five years (1998). This year she was promoted to Principal of the School of Dialectic. **John Heaton** joined the school as its second headmaster in 1998, following the founding headmaster, **Dr. Robert Littlejohn**.



John Heaton

This year marks his twenty-fifth year in that office. Prior to joining New Covenant he served as a parish pastor and Headmaster of a classical, Christian school in Orlando, FL.

HIGHER EDUCATION



Erin Uminn

The following faculty members obtained higher degrees in a variety of disciplines.

Erin Uminn (Elise-'22; Irelyn 12th-'24; Bilbo-4th) earned her Ph.D. in Education from Liberty University.



Ameer Newsome

Ameer Newsome (Carter-'20; Emilee-'21; Kaden-'23) earned a Master's Degree in Education from Liberty University.



Bridges Spiva

Bridges Spiva (Wagner-'20; Waylon-'23) earned a Master's Degree in Classical Christian School Leadership from Gordon College.



Christy Brenning

Christy Brenning (Cassia-'18; Titus-'21; Jael-'23) will complete a Master's Degree in Mathematics Education in July 2023.





A L U M N I N E W S

1998



Perry Mundy is working as a Licensed Physical Therapist

Assistant in an assisted living facility with Select Rehabilitation in Lynchburg. He is also a pedorthist at Virginia Sport and Spine Institute and owns his own company, Locomotion Orthotics LLC. He married his wife Kelly in 2017 and has two daughters, Mara and Avery. In his free time, he enjoys participating in CrossFit and Spartan activities and playing soccer regularly.

2002



The **Rev'd. Fr. Peter A. Joslyn** (Class of 2002, NCS faculty 2006-2011) has

recently assumed the duties of Assistant Priest at St. Alban's Anglican Cathedral in Oviedo, FL. He and his wife, Erin (NCS faculty 2005-2010) live in central Florida with their four children, David (12), Clare (10), James (7) and Isabel (5).

2003



Dr. Nathan Davy is the Organist and Associate Music Director

at Park Cities Presbyterian Church in Dallas, TX. A prizewinning organist, Dr. Davy has performed at various locations across the country including the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

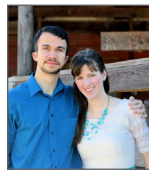
2006



Mark Sette is based in Brooklyn, NY and was recently

promoted to Vice President of Digital Experience Design at J.P. Morgan.

2008



John Samson and his wife Jenn serve with DOOR International in

Kenya. Working with the Kenyan Sign Language team in Nyeri and the Botsawana sign language team in Botswana, they have seen community members come to salvation as they hear the gospel for the first time.

After working as an Event Coordinator and



Administrative Assistant for Campus Outreach for several years,

Katie Hall Harris is now a stay-at-home mom to three beautiful children, Foster, Charlotte and Evelyn.

2010

Laura Sharrett Straka is in her sixth year as a full-time staffer with Reformed University Fellowship at the University of Virginia. She is leading two women's studies and one co-ed study on the Names of Jesus in John.

Ashleigh "Bee" Bartell Dunne and her husband Mark, who is part of the Middle School faculty at New Covenant, welcomed baby Saige to the family in March.



Abigail Simmons Ahoude and her husband Marc welcomed baby Abishai to

the family in June. Abigail runs a company called ImaginePod which helps nonprofit organizations grow their campaigns.

Matthew Shaughnessy and his wife Kelsey welcomed baby Lennon to the family in November.

2012



Ryan Pickard and his wife Christine welcomed their first baby,

Calvin, into their family in November. Ryan is working as a mechanical engineer and project manager for a technology team at BWXT, developing innovative manufacturing technology.



Townsend Williams (2012) and **Rachael Robertson Williams** (2010)

have two beautiful children. Townsend is working as a Financial Planner at the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association of America (TIAA) and Rachael is working as an Enterprise Occupational Health Lead Registered Nurse at Atrium Health.

Bethany Hartman Caswell and her husband Josh welcomed baby Eden to the family in December.

2013

Josh Aultice and his wife Jordan welcomed baby Ivorie to their family this year.



A L U M N I N E W S

Hattie Eshleman joined the New Covenant faculty this year, teaching art and Bible in the School of Dialectic.

2014



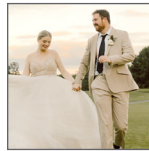
Wesley Price married his wife Rachel in 2019 and moved to

Alexandria, VA with their two dogs, Ava and Slinky. He is currently a product manager for a data analytics company called PublicRelay, where he designs user interfaces, writes specifications for new products and features, and works closely with a small team of developers to build and implement those features.

Galen Creekmore (2014) and **Jessie Scruggs Creekmore** (2016) welcomed baby Lainey in September.

2015

Justin Bass moved to Charlotte, NC, where he works for the Mecklenburg County Government Water Quality Program. He tackles a variety of tasks, but his main job is stream restoration and calculating sediment deposition into rivers and lakes.



Brandon Smith married Ryien Smith in June.

Anna Gray Owens is a Health and Physical Education teacher at Heritage High School.

Will Reeves will be moving to Tampa, Florida this August to begin a new Air Force assignment at MacDill Air Force Base. He will be working for Special Operations Command Central, which is responsible for planning special operations throughout the Middle East.

2016



McKay Perry is in her second year of pursuing her Master of

Music with a concentration in Music History at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. She is now working on her master's thesis, which analyzes the representation of mental illness in contemporary American musical theater.

Laura Hart Martin and her husband Josiah welcomed baby Avonlea Rose to their family in September.

Olivia Hicks completed her Masters in Education from

UVA. She is now teaching third grade in Charlottesville.

Emma Collins Marian and her husband Simon welcomed baby Frederick to the family in March.

Trey Ivins received his MBA and will continue his work as an IT Project Manager III at Liberty University.

2017



Landon McBride married Olivia Tribley.



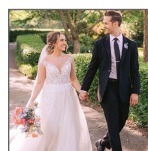
Grayson Renalds Bowers married Andy Bowers in February.



Sydney Adams (2017) and **Jackson Ankeney** (2017) married in April.

Aidan Morse started a new job at BWXT Advanced Technologies.

Olivia Nye Peterson and her husband Josiah welcomed baby Jesse to their family.



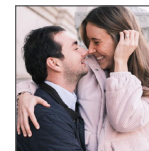
Caleb Hartman married Paige Hartman in May 2022.

2018



Nina Caldwell Rice and **Alex Rice** were married this year and

bought their first home together in northern Virginia. Nina graduated in May of 2022 with her Bachelor of Science in Biology and is currently working toward her Master's in Canine Behavior to pursue a career in dog training and behavior consulting.



Abigail Hall Rives married Hunter Rives in June, 2023.

Ian Perry married Lizzy McKeaver.



Amy White has been working with the Fellowship of Catholic

University Students (FOCUS) at the United States Naval Academy, reaching out to students and leading Bible studies to share the good news of Jesus Christ.



Tim Brophy (2018) and **Emily Simon Brophy** (2018) are teaching

English at Bucharest Christian Academy in Romania. As the school continues to grow, they



A L U M N I N E W S

are sharing the love of Christ with the students and refugees in their classes. As New Covenant alumni living in Europe, the first two cities they wanted to visit were Athens and Rome.



Christian Kumar married Lizzie Davis in June, 2022.



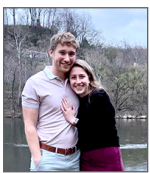
Virginia Hicks Wright married fellow William and Mary grad, Nicholas

Wright in January and moved to Richmond. In May, Virginia graduated from William and Mary and is currently working on a Masters in Counseling from Liberty University.

Mitchell Smith is enjoying work as a fly-fishing guide in Montana.



Emma Prillaman has been traveling the world with Semester at Sea.



Josh Ivins received his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering

and is working as a Nondestructive Evaluation Engineer at Framatome. He

became engaged to Maddie Busby in March.

Savanna Ames married Parker Sherman in April 2022.

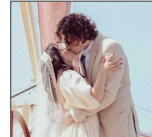
2019

Emma Zealand Seay opened her own business, Set Apart Hair Studio.



Anna Claire Kittrell Vaughan married Adam Vaughan in April.

Parks Robinson is engaged to Jackie Dorsey.



Evan Price married Sierra Laguitan in April.



Claire Owens graduated from Samford University with her B.A. in

Journalism and Mass Communications with a minor in Marketing.

Corinne McCaw graduated from Samford University with her B.A. in Journalism and Mass Communications with a minor in Spanish.



Derek Hackenbracht graduated from Virginia Tech with his B.S. in

Data-Centric Computing and a minor in Mathematics.

2020

Lausyn McBride graduated from Liberty University and is engaged to Matthew Johnson.

Calvin Hurt (2020) and **Eva Sayles Hurt (2020)** were married in December 2022.

Wagner Spiva is working as a construction intern with Van Metre.

Laura Hicks is a rising senior at the University of Alabama. She is majoring in Criminal Justice with a minor in Social Work.



Emily Brophy graduated summa cum laude from Liberty

University with her B.A. in History and a minor in Ancient Greek.

2021

Izabel Zealand (2021) is engaged to William Gillespie (2020).

Ellen Anne Deneen is working as a property management intern with Van Metre.



Thad Heaton, a student at Liberty University and Virginia

Technical Institute, competed in a statewide competition for welding at Tidewater Tech in Norfolk, VA in April 2023. He and his team took first place among 22 teams from across the Commonwealth in fabrication and welding. The team will now represent LU and VTI at the national competition in Atlanta, GA this June.

We want to keep our records current in order to communicate with you. Please send any updates in your contact information to Ksakai@newcovenantschools.org



*Katie Sakai,
Director of Alumni Affairs*

UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

Alumni Soccer Game
Friday, November 24

Homecoming
Friday/Saturday,
January 5/6

Alumni Lacrosse Game
May 2024

NEW COVENANT SCHOOLS

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The 20 graduates of the Class of 2023 celebrate after Commencement ceremonies held at Rivermont Evangelical Presbyterian Church on May 27.

QUID NOVI

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EX OFFICIO

John Heaton—Headmaster
Eric Parker—School Warden

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