

The New Covenant community celebrated the new school year at the Back-to-School Picnic activities on Friday.



THE NEWSLETTER OF  
NEW COVENANT SCHOOLS

# QUID NOVI

SEPTEMBER 11, 2023  
VOL. 26 NO. 5 MAJORIS

## TEACHERS: SHEPHERDS OF YOUR CHILDREN'S MINDS AND HEARTS

by Marion Patterson, Grammar School Principal

*He shall lead his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.*

*Isaiah 40:11 KJV*

Years ago, Ted Tripp wrote *Shepherding a Child's Heart* to shape his readers' approach to the training and discipline of children. It has been revised and updated, and while his specific advice may not suit every individual family, the core of its approach to parenting remains the same. Our children are ours to shepherd. We shepherd them by getting to their hearts.

As parents, it is our responsibility to touch their hearts each day, get to know their strengths and weaknesses honestly, and address the thoughts and intents of their minds as they come to light. It's not an easy task, by the way, to actually see your child's strengths and weaknesses! We all prefer to believe that they are full of goodness and truth in every situation. But truly knowing them gives us opportunities to shape hearts that love God and others first of all, and to furnish them with the skills to be the adults God created them to be. As teachers, we share these goals with parents during each school day.

*continued on p.4*

### WHAT'S NEW?

#### Pre-K/ Kindergarten 2024-25 Admissions

Now is the time to submit a student application if you intend for your child to begin Pre-K or Kindergarten for the 2024-25 school year. We offer early enrollment to our current families including our current Pre-K students. New sibling applications for all other grades are also being accepted. Your application for a new sibling will receive priority in our admissions process until **October 12, 2023**. Application is easy. Simply use this link to our website to begin: <https://www.newcovenantschools.org/admissions/apply-here/>

School tours are also open. If you would like to learn more about our Pre-K-12 program or know another family who is interested in our school, please use this link to schedule a tour <https://www.newcovenantschools.org/admissions/schedule-a-tour/> or contact **Linda Simon** in the admissions office by emailing [lsimon@newcovenantschools.org](mailto:lsimon@newcovenantschools.org).



THINK. LEARN. LOVE. LIVE.

# H O N O R A R I A

## HALL FITNESS COMMONS DEDICATION

When the board of directors planned and launched the Permanent Things Campaign, little did we know how much support would be offered from our board and parent community. Each of the several phases of this campaign—the expansion of the Marie Macdonald Chapel, the Epic Hallway classrooms, and now the Hall Fitness Commons and outdoor gym—enjoyed leadership gifts which made each possible.



*The Halls and Workman giving and leadership is honored at the Dell dedication on Friday.*

On Friday afternoon we dedicated the Hall Fitness Commons, which has been made possible by two significant gifts. Board member **Nancy Hall** and her husband, past board member, **Warner Hall** generously led this effort with a magnanimous gift that ensured the completion and success of the rather difficult construction in the Dell.

The Halls have been sustained and generous benefactors. They have given of their time to serve on our board of directors, attended countless meetings, and participated in the triumphs that the school has enjoyed to this day. They have served as coaches in tennis and golf respectively.

Nancy and Warner first enrolled their daughters **Katie** (Class of 2008) and **Rachel** (Class of 2011) when they were just Middle and Grammar School students. At that time, the school was in rented facilities on Liggates Road and in the old Jones Memorial Library on Rivermont Avenue. Later their daughter **Abby** (Class of 2018) was also enrolled. All three graduated from New Covenant, went to college and are now married. This year Katie's twins, **Charlotte** and **Foster**, are in Kindergarten. The Halls have made their contributions in honor of their three outstanding daughters.

*continued on p.4*

## NCS DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR: JENNA NG

Each year the Classic Learning Test Board recognizes top performers on the CLT10, a college preparatory exam and alternative to the PSAT. Distinguished Scholars are those who earned a distinctive score at their respective high schools. We are pleased to announce that **Jenna Ng** has been named Distinguished Scholar at NCS for her outstanding performance on the CLT10 last April. Congratulations, Jenna!



## SOR HOUSE HEADS SELECTED FOR 2023-24

Congratulations to this year's School of Rhetoric House Council winners. This group will represent the student body through their respective Houses and will work to foster school spirit and unity.



**ALEXANDRIA**  
Adora Hampton & Ally Horne



**ANTIOCH**  
Saria Hostetler & Olivia Kidd



**CANTERBURY**  
Diego Leal & Virginia Morse



**WITTENBURG**  
Cora Helm & Abby Rose

## FUNDRAISING REPORT

	GOAL	RECEIVED
Scholarship Foundation	\$300,000	<i>Pledged</i> \$70,100 <i>Received</i> \$44,051

The New Covenant Schools Scholarship Foundation exists to provide scholarships for students who would not be able to attend our school without significant help. Individuals who donate to this fund receive a 65% tax credit to be used against state tax liabilities and may use the remaining 35% as a deduction on federal taxes if itemization occurs. This is a way to steward your tax money and use it for a child's education. Contact **Dayna Renalds** in the Development Office for more information.

## EVERYONE

### GUIDANCE COFFEEHOUSE

Seniors and juniors are invited to the **Regent University Coffeehouse** this **Wednesday, September 13 from 12:30 to 1:00pm**. Come connect with a college admissions counselor and learn more about the admissions process and distinctives of a mid-size private Christian college. Iced coffee and a snack bar will be provided in L1. To reserve your spot, please connect with **Mrs. Hester** directly or via email [shester@newcovenantschools.org](mailto:shester@newcovenantschools.org) by Tuesday at noon.

### EASY WAYS TO HELP NEW COVENANT RAISE MONEY!

- **Kroger Plus Card**—You can help New Covenant earn money simply by linking your Kroger account to our school. Simply log in to your Kroger account online and select New Covenant Schools to receive your community rewards. Our organization number is IX901.
- **Givens/Little Dickens**—This local bookstore has a rebate program that has provided our library with hundreds of free books. New Covenant Schools receives 3% of your pre-tax purchase total when you simply mention New Covenant Schools to the cashier as you check out. Any family member or friend can participate.

### LUNCH ORDERING

October lunch ordering is open now through **Friday, September 15**. Please log in to your FACTS app or desktop account to place your orders. Pizza **does not** have to be preordered unless you require a gluten-free or dairy-free pizza. Make sure to complete the checkout process by paying for your orders. You will see a

receipt on the screen and receive an email with a copy of the receipt when your orders have been successfully submitted. Loaded baked potatoes are the featured item each Tuesday. Questions? Contact **Debbie Williamson** at [dwilliamson@newcovenantschools.org](mailto:dwilliamson@newcovenantschools.org).

### FINANCIAL STRATEGIES FOR FUNDING EDUCATION

Would you like to know more about the VA 529 Savings Plan and the VA Educational Improvement Tax Credits Scholarship Program? These programs offer ways for you to pay school tuition with tax-free savings or make a bigger impact with your charitable gift. Join us for breakfast **Wednesday, September 27 at 7:45am** to hear from our Director of Development on how these programs work.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL

### TECHNOLOGY AND WATCH POLICIES

Middle School sports are in full swing! Do you have questions about how to keep in touch with your student athlete after school hours or when they are playing away games? Check out the MS cell phone/smart watch policies and the informative Q&A found under the **Resources** icon on the app to have your questions answered.

## SCHOOL OF RHETORIC

### SAT TESTING

New Covenant will be proctoring the SAT for all interested seniors on **Thursday, October 26** during the school day. Seniors do not need to register online to take this test. Information regarding payment and other details will be sent at a later date.



## SPORTS SCORES

### Tuesday, September 5

#### VARSITY MEN'S SOCCER

New Covenant.....	1
Blue Ridge School.....	2

#### JV VOLLEYBALL

New Covenant.....	2
Westover.....	0

#### VARSITY VOLLEYBALL

New Covenant.....	3
Westover.....	0

#### MS VOLLEYBALL

North Cross.....	0
New Covenant.....	2

#### MS SOCCER

North Cross.....	4
New Covenant.....	1

### Thursday, September 7

#### 5/6 VOLLEYBALL

New Covenant.....	0
Timberlake.....	2

#### JV VOLLEYBALL

New Covenant.....	2
Fuqua School.....	0

#### VARSITY VOLLEYBALL

New Covenant.....	3
Fuqua School.....	0

### Friday, September 8

#### MS BOYS' SOCCER

SWVA.....	2
New Covenant.....	2

#### VARSITY MEN'S SOCCER

SWVA.....	0
New Covenant.....	1

#### MS VOLLEYBALL

Lynchburg Homeschool.....	0
New Covenant.....	2

#### JV VOLLEYBALL

Lynchburg Homeschool.....	0
New Covenant.....	2

#### VARSITY VOLLEYBALL

Lynchburg Homeschool.....	0
New Covenant.....	3

continued from p. 1

Sounds good, right? You've secured a faculty of caring, Christian professionals at New Covenant, and can expect them to get to know your child well through the ins and outs of learning and playing together each day. All is well until that teacher finds that cultivating the good in your child, explicitly stating expectations and reinforcing them, are not sufficient means to train him for life and learning; some consequences must play out to form the heart of the child. In Kindergarten, this might look like a "Yellow Light." As in a real traffic intersection, a yellow light signals us to prepare to stop. It serves as a warning that a "red light" is coming soon, so we'd better move our foot from the accelerator to the brake.

In the early years of school, it serves that same purpose, to tell the child to stop what he or she is doing. Sometimes it comes with a two-minute time out, but always it comes with understanding,

as teacher and student clarify what the behavior is that needs to change.

When this happens, you'll see that your child's teacher has just acted as a shepherd, one who cares for the sheep and corrects their course when needed. It's hard to imagine David, writer of the 23rd Psalm, judging his sheep while guiding them, telling them they have failed morally, or that they are on a bad path for the rest of their lives. Rather, the shepherd is portrayed as the ultimate caregiver, one who is willing to lead young ones into righteousness. This is the model we use in teaching and training young hearts.

But here's the rub—your children may not like or enjoy the course correction which moves them out of the way of danger. They may be emotional, but will then have the opportunity to learn through experience to receive correction with grace. You as a parent may be

emotionally upset as well; I recall a few phone calls over the years with the phrase, "Why is MY child in the office?" Yet this correction, early in the process of habit formation, is as critical to learning as falling is to a toddler who is learning to balance. It's not something to protect your children from—unless, of course, you don't want them to learn.

If you feel uncomfortable when your child needs correction, remember that it's a key part of the service you should expect from us. We all learn through identifying spots where we need to adapt, whether we are working to improve our tennis games, learn a language, or improve our marriages. Children learn the same way. Hearing that they need to change and responding appropriately builds capable and resilient children.



continued from p. 2



*Phyllis Workman with John Heaton and Foster Harris (Gr-K) at the Dell dedication.*

**Phyllis Workman** has been affiliated with New Covenant for more than 25 years. Few people know or remember that Mrs. Workman was on the board of directors—and on the Headmaster Search Committee—that recruited and brought our current headmaster **John Heaton** to New Covenant 25 years ago. Her influence in the school is that deep.

Mrs. Workman is a part of a rare consortium of donors whose generosity is not limited to this campaign. Because of the long association she has had with the school, she has participated significantly in every capital campaign the school has conducted. Her fingerprints are everywhere on this campus. Your children have played on PG's Playground in the Grammar School wing. She made that possible. Our young men and women play ball in the Workman Field House, for which she provided the leadership gift in memory of her late husband, **Bob Workman**. She also was a significant contributor to the

Workman-Hall Fitness Center, of which the Dell is an outdoor extension. There are many, many other ways she brought dreams into reality, but today, we thank her for a significant gift which enabled the school to acquire the gym apparatus which has now been constructed in the Dell.

## QUID NOVI

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Class of 2024 • Mike Lovell • Class of 2025  
Neil Bohnert • Leslie Moeller • Bob Price  
Leland Seckman • Dan Vollmer  
Class of 2026 • John Gauger • Nancy Hall  
Chris Misiano • Sam Mizener • Tom Rogers  
Anne Umbarger

### 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**