



Seventh graders display project work for their study of "King Arthur and His Knights of the Round Table."

THE NEWSLETTER OF
NEW COVENANT SCHOOLS

QUID NOVI

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GENEROUS AND RICH IN GOOD WORKS—START YOUNG!

By Marion Patterson, Grammar School Principal

Our youngest members of the New Covenant community are looking forward to Christmas celebrations at school next week! On Tuesday, December 19, they will sing seasonal music and recite the story of Christ's birth from memory for an audience of parents, teachers and older students; and later, with the help of many parent volunteers, they will create Christmas crafts to take home, play games with friends, exchange small gifts,

and, quite possibly, eat a few sweet treats. Each year, the Christmas Concert rings with the simple faith of children, and excitement stirs our hearts. The last school day before Christmas is one of my very favorites.

You might wonder why we give a school day to such celebrations. Beyond the warmth and joy of the day, these festive moments remind us all of the story of Christ's birth. They also model a fitting response

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WHAT'S NEW?

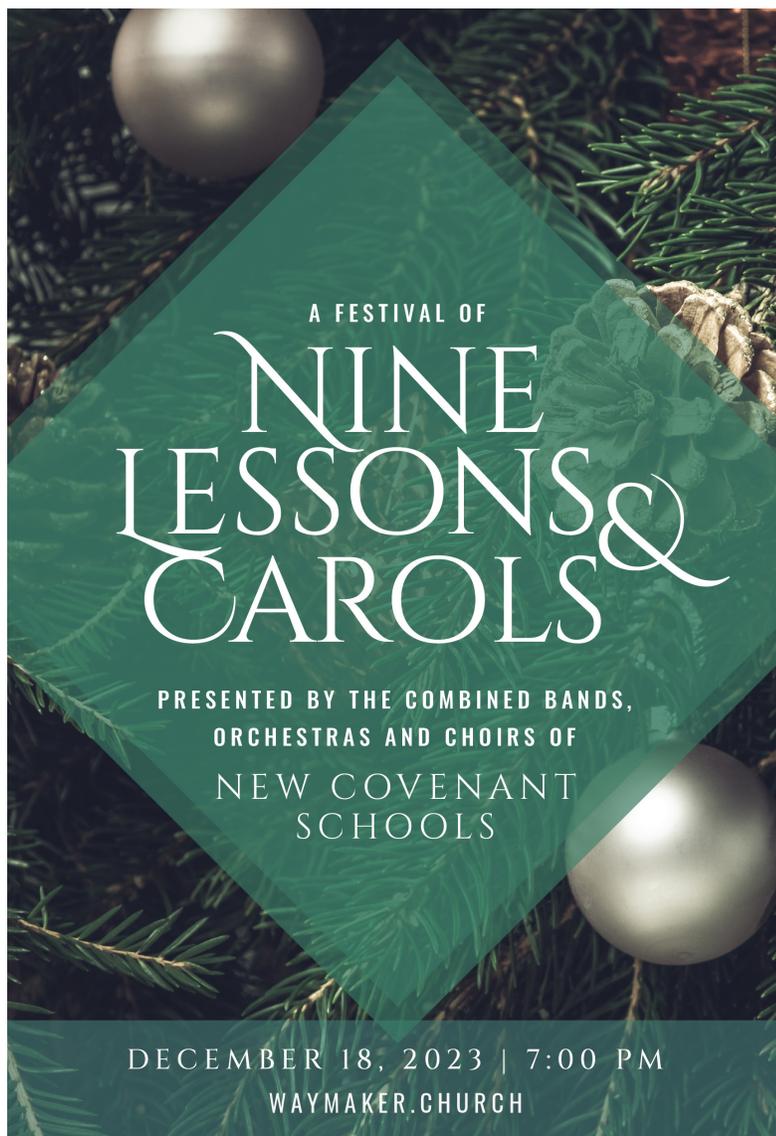
Middle School Toy Drive and School of Rhetoric Food Drive

It has been the tradition to allow the Middle School Student Council and the School of Rhetoric to find a charitable organization to bless as a response to the amazing abundance we experience each day. The Middle School is excited to partner with Toys for Tots this Christmas season! New Covenant would love for all Middle School students to participate in the toy drive by looking through their own

toys, finding a gently used toy they are willing to donate, and bringing it to school the week of **December 11-15**. Students can certainly donate more than one. Students will bring their donations to the teacher assigned to their team this year: Blue team to Mrs. Olenik's room, Black team to Mrs. Uminn's room, Orange team to Mr. Webb's room, and Green team to Mr. Hart's room.

The School of Rhetoric is collecting canned food items for the pantry at Compassion Church located on Wards Ferry Road in Lynchburg. High School students are asked to bring in donations through **Tuesday, December 19** to receive points for their individual house. The items will be given to the church for distribution during the Christmas season.

H O N O R A R I A



SPORTS SCORES

Tuesday, December 5

JV BOYS' BASKETBALL

New Covenant.....	52
North Cross School.....	23

VARSITY MEN'S BASKETBALL

New Covenant.....	58
North Cross School.....	54

MS GIRLS' BASKETBALL

North Cross School.....	14
New Covenant.....	23

VARSITY WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

North Cross School.....	19
New Covenant.....	47

Thursday, December 7

MS GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Lynchburg Homeschool.....	3
New Covenant.....	27

MS BOYS' BASKETBALL

Lynchburg Homeschool.....	47
New Covenant.....	11

JV GIRLS' BASKETBALL

New Covenant.....	16
Lynchburg Homeschool.....	25

VARSITY WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

New Covenant.....	42
Lynchburg Homeschool.....	22

Friday, December 8

VARSITY WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

New Covenant.....	59
Fuqua School.....	23

VARSITY MEN'S BASKETBALL

New Covenant.....	82
Fuqua School.....	32

SOR SHINES WITH SHAKESPEAREAN DRAMA

On Monday, December 4, SOR students competed in the annual Shakespeare Competition. Students have worked since August on a monologue that they presented to judges from the local theater community. Judging this year were **Kelli Johnson** of Academy Center for the Arts, **Jeff Wittman** from University of Lynchburg, and **Patrick Earl** representing Randolph College. **Cora Helm** finished in first place with a monologue as Viola from *Twelfth Night*. **Noah Caldwell** placed second with a monologue as Benedick

from *Much Ado about Nothing*. **Carrington Thackston** placed third as Valentine from *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*. Cora will attend the regional Shakespeare competition hosted by the English-Speaking Union of Charlottesville. This competition will take place in Staunton on the first Saturday in February on the Blackfriars Stage. Congratulations to all who competed!



(L-R) Carrington Thackston, Noah Caldwell, Ruby Helm.

E T C E T E R A

EVERYONE

LESSONS & CAROLS

Join us for our annual service of Lessons & Carols on **Monday, December 18 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. Childcare is available for children birth to four years old. Cookies and coffee will be served before the service. All are welcome!

DELAYED START TIME

New Covenant Schools will open on **Tuesday, December 19 at 9:00am**. *Students should arrive no earlier than 8:30am.*

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Grammar School and the 5th & 6th Grade Band, Orchestra, and Choir will be performing a Christmas concert at 9:15am in the Moomaw Center on **Tuesday, December 19**. All are welcome to attend!

CHRISTMAS DRESS DAY

Next **Tuesday, December 19**, all students may wear a Christmas themed shirt or a red and/or green shirt. Middle School and SOR students may wear jeans or uniform bottoms with closed-toe shoes. Grammar School students must wear uniform

bottoms, but girls may choose to wear a Christmas dress.

MIDDLE SCHOOL TOY DRIVE

The MS is hosting a Toys for Tots drive. Please see the *What's New* section for more details.

CHRISTMAS BREAK

The end of the 2nd quarter and the beginning of Christmas Break is on **Tuesday, December 19**. We will have a **12:00pm dismissal on the 19th** and school will break for Christmas through Wednesday, January 3 with students returning on **Thursday, January 4**.

LOST AND FOUND

All items left unclaimed in the Lost and Found will be purged and donated on **December 19**. When visiting our campus during any of our holiday events, please take the time to check for any of your family's personal items. Lost and Found is located at the end of the 100 hallway.

LUNCH ORDERING

Lunch ordering for January is now open and closes **Friday, December 15**. As a reminder, J Term will run from **Thursday 1/4/24-Friday 1/12/24**, and SOR students may be off campus during that time, so please keep that in mind when ordering lunches. Please contact **Debbie Williamson** with any questions at dwilliamson@newcovenantschools.org.

TEACHERS' FAVORITES

Each year faculty and staff fill out a favorites sheet listing interests, hobbies, favorite foods, etc. If you would like a copy of a teachers' favorites list, please check the resource documents section of the app, or stop by the lobby desk and ask to see the Favorites Book.

TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TAP)

The tuition assistance program (TAP) for 2024-25 school year is accepting applications through **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> apply. See email sent on **October 31** for details and instructions.

THE TIME OF OUR LIVES: REFLECTIONS ON THE CHURCH CALENDAR

This year Headmaster Heaton is journaling notes on his blog about the Church's calendar year. Last week was the first Sunday in Advent, which begins the season preceding Christmastide. Each week from now through next spring, our Headmaster will post his reflections on the calendar, which you can read at the link here: newcovenantschools.org/my-ncs/blog/

FUNDRAISING REPORT

	GOAL	RECEIVED
Annual Fund/Permanent Things	\$300,000	\$36,146
General Scholarship	\$10,000	\$54,836
Scholarship Foundation	\$300,000	<i>Pledged</i> \$221,100 <i>Received</i> \$103,051

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.

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to the good news of his coming—rejoicing! As we plan our classroom activities for the days leading up to the holidays, we look for meaningful ways to shape the affections of children, leading them to respond to Christ’s advent with joy and generosity.

Each year during the Advent season, our little ones are challenged to develop generosity and richness in good works – virtues we note in our Portrait of the Graduate. In the Grammar School, each grade level chooses a project in which the children can participate, and which will benefit others outside of their classroom. They get to feel very grown-up as they take on the role of helping others.

This year’s list of projects starts with serving those in our own school community. Pre-K and Kindergarten will shower love and appreciation on our school staff members: those who

work mostly behind the scenes to feed students, to keep the building clean, and to keep things running smoothly. The children will gather small gifts and treats, arrange them in festive containers, and deliver them to our kitchen, custodial and support staff members.

Recognizing the importance of caring for folks in difficulty, recovering from surgery or receiving nursing home care, first grade is gathering gifts and supplies for Lynchburg Health and Rehabilitation Center. They will include handmade pictures and notes to brighten the days of those who are working to overcome physical and life challenges.

The Agape Center is a community of volunteers who seek to create a sense of belonging for those in need. They provide mentoring, food, clothing and household necessities – delivered with love. Students in second and third grades

will collect and donate cleaning supplies and fun items for birthday baskets, to be distributed by the ministry.

Daily Bread provides meals with respect and without condition, for all comers. Their dining room is a welcoming place to sit down and eat for folks in our downtown area. Fourth graders are filling lunch bags for them to distribute.

Parents, many thanks for the items you are sending in for these projects and the time you devote to helping out at school. You are making it possible for children to learn a bit of generosity. Our hope is that these gifts will benefit not just those who receive them, but also those who give them.



Mrs. Callaway instructs fourth graders on the organizing principles of the Dewey Decimal System.

QUID NOVI

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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