



Varsity Men's Soccer beats Dayspring Academy 3-2 last Thursday on late header goal by Micah Xayavong (right).

THE NEWSLETTER OF  
NEW COVENANT SCHOOLS

# QUID NOVI

AUGUST 25, 2025  
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## WHAT IS COMMUNITY?

By Tiffany Fulcher, Director of Parent Relations

There's something in the air—and no, it's not just the smell of fresh crayons and new Sperrys! It's the unmistakable joy of community. From morning greetings from Luna to lunchroom chatter to the end-of-day waves in the car line, our school is full of life—not just because we have amazing students, but because we're doing this together. Classical Christian education is about so much more than academics. We're not just memorizing Latin declensions or reading the *Iliad* (though we do love that too!)—we're building a community where families walk together

in truth, goodness, and beauty. And guess what? You, dear parents, are a HUGE part of what makes this community thrive.

My family came to be a part of this community in 2020. Our oldest daughter was supposed to start kindergarten that fall—yes, right when the world was shut down for COVID-19. Thankfully, New Covenant re-opened with careful health protocols, but they also needed something pretty basic, yet surprisingly crucial: lunch delivery. With strict protocols in place, students were not allowed to switch rooms, or go

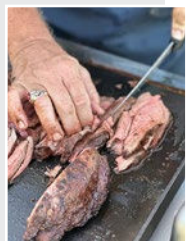
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## WHAT'S NEW?

### Dove Hunting Invitation



Each year **Headmaster Heaton** holds a dove shoot and BBQ at Bold Branch Farm on opening day of the season. This year it falls on Monday (Labor Day) and gun time is 12 noon. It's a father-son (and even daughter) kind of event. Moms are welcome too, but few want to sit in a field all day to wait for the birds to fly. Space is limited, but there are about a dozen blinds still available. The day is about fellowship among New Covenant dads, so of course there's plenty of good food. This year, our chef **Scott Speakes** (Shelton-7th) and **Brett Tucker** (Tinley-8th, Sadie-5th, Mason-5th) and a small crew will be cooking a whole hog on the smoker all night on Sunday. There will be plenty to eat. While Labor Day is often a family holiday, it may be that you don't have plans. If you want to spend it in the outdoors with us, please respond immediately by email to [heaton@newcovenantschools.org](mailto:heaton@newcovenantschools.org). Headmaster Heaton will send you details including where to be and what to bring.



THINK. LEARN. LOVE. LIVE.

# H O N O R A R I A



## SPORTS SCORES

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 19**

### VARSITY MEN'S SOCCER

New Covenant.....	2
Blue Ridge Christian.....	1

### JV GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL

New Covenant.....	0
Brunswick Academy.....	2

### VARSITY WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

New Covenant.....	0
Brunswick Academy.....	3

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 21**

### VARSITY MEN'S SOCCER

Dayspring Christian.....	2
New Covenant.....	3

### JV GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL

New Covenant.....	1
Westover Christian .....	2

### VARSITY WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

New Covenant.....	3
Westover Christian .....	2

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 22**

### JV GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL

Richmond Christian.....	0
New Covenant.....	2

### VARSITY WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Richmond Christian.....	0
New Covenant.....	3

## ANNUAL BACK-TO-SCHOOL PICNIC

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

*Join us for an evening of sports, bounce houses, food, and fellowship. The schedule for the evening is as follows:*

4:30p	5:00p	6:00p	6:30p
7/8 Boys' Soccer vs. Roanoke Valley Christian	JV Girls' Volleyball vs. North Cross School	Varsity Men's Soccer vs. Roanoke Valley Christian	Varsity Women's Volleyball vs. North Cross School

5:30p FOOD SERVICE STARTS

## NCS CLASS OF 2025 STUDENTS NAMED AP SCHOLARS

We have received the AP scores from last May's testing and are very pleased to announce that a number of our students in the Class of 2025 achieved honors status. **Mary Place** and **Brey Welch** were named AP Scholars, meaning they earned a score of 3 or higher on at least three AP exams. Also, **Cora Helm**, **Ellie Jacobs**, **Jenna Ng**, and **John Scruggs** were named AP Scholars with Honor, earning a score of 3 or higher, with an average of 3.25, on at least four AP exams. Congratulations to the Class of 2025!

## SOR HOUSE HEADS FOR 2025-26



### ALEXANDRIA

Grace Brady and  
Ian Gill



### ANTIOCH

Olivia Hostetler and  
Michael Seckman



### CANTERBURY

Hannah Edwards and  
John-Paul Gauger



### WITTENBERG

Charlotte Libbey and  
Micah Xayavong



# ETCETERA

## EVERYONE

### MEETING FOR SPORTS PARENTS

A meeting with the Athletic Director will be held for parents of all fall athletes (soccer, volleyball, cross country and tennis) on **Monday, August 25 at 5:30pm** in the Workman Field House. At this meeting AD **John Maynard** will go over key athletic policies, clarify changes made to the Athletic Handbook over the summer, and introduce you to coaches. We ask that at least one parent from the athlete's family be present. A short summary of the meeting will be sent to each household afterward. We are looking forward to a competitive season this fall.

### SAVE THE DATE

Our annual Back-to-School Fellowship Picnic will be held **Friday, September 5**. Plan to bring your family and come join us for a good time together! See page 2 for more details.

### ALLEGRO MUSIC LESSONS

Allegro Music will offer on-site music lessons again this year, beginning the final week in August. There are a few openings for piano, guitar, and beginner voice. Visit [www.allegromusic.school](http://www.allegromusic.school) or text (610) 350-1780 for info.

### MOMS IN PRAYER

Please join us starting this **Wednesday from 2:00-3:00pm** in the chapel for a time of prayer for our students, teachers, staff, and community.

### AFTERCARE

This quarter's aftercare program is full and will not be accepting daily add-ins.

### NURSE'S OFFICE

The nurse's clinic will be open daily starting at 8:30am. Prior to this time, the clinic will be available for medication drop-offs, parent meetings, and emergencies only.

### PROGRESS REPORTS

First-quarter progress reports will be emailed to parents on **Wednesday, September 10**.

### GRYPHON OUTFITTERS

The school store is open each Thursday school is in session from 2:30-3:30pm. For any questions, please contact the store manager at [Gryphonstore@newcovenantschools.org](mailto:Gryphonstore@newcovenantschools.org)

### STUDENT PICK-UP/ABSENCES

If your child will be absent, please send an email by 9:00am to [ncsoffice@newcovenantschools.org](mailto:ncsoffice@newcovenantschools.org) indicating the reason for their absence. If you need to pick up a student early for an appointment, email the time you need your student in the lobby. A parent or guardian must sign out and in all non-driving students. Parents who wish for their child to drive themselves to an appointment during instructional time (a scheduled class period), regardless of grade, must provide written permission for each occasion. Driving students are required to have a driver form on file and sign out and in at the lobby desk.

### TEXTING SERVICE UPDATE

New Covenant will be updating its texting service to better integrate with our current FACTS Family Portal system. This service will allow us to communicate important announcements, reminders, and podcast updates with parents through text messages. You can opt in by clicking the following link: <https://newcovenantschools.factsmgmtadmin.com/text>

### RIDE SHARING

Be sure to update FACTS Family Portal regarding who can pick up your child. To indicate who can pick up your child, log into FACTS Family Portal, and go to: School > Web Forms > Family Demographic Form Transportation > Transportation Form. Enter those



### LABOR DAY

There will be no school **Monday, September 1**.

individuals who are allowed to transport your child. Click save when finished.

### PARENTS WELCOME

We are grateful for the opportunity to welcome parents on campus. When you are planning your visit, please remember the following protocols required of our visitors:

1. All visitors must use the main entrance and be signed in. Please do not leave the lobby area without receiving authorization from front desk personnel (not even to peek in the kindergarten wing or front office). Please notify the office if anyone other than a parent is planning to visit your child.
2. You are welcome to visit during your student's lunchtime; lunchtime is the appropriate time for visiting with students. Please email the teacher if you would like to request a meeting or visit the classroom.
3. Many students enjoy an occasional lunch visit or hallway hello; however, parents of our youngest Gryphons are encouraged to avoid this practice early in the school year. Such visits often cause children and their peers to become upset. By allowing your child time to become comfortable with routines before visiting, you are helping your child and all students have a more positive school experience.



Parents serving in many ways  
builds joyful community.



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to the Moomaw Center for lunch, so meals had to be brought to classrooms by volunteers. What started as a once- or twice-a-week volunteer rotation quickly turned into more and became one of my favorite parts of the week. I got to know teachers by name. I was able to see the friendships my daughter was developing. I built friendships with other moms in the lunch rotation, and more than anything, I felt connected to the school and its mission. Even though COVID restrictions are gone, God used serving trays and hand sanitizer to introduce me to a community I didn't even know I needed.

New Covenant is more than a school—it's a family. This isn't a place where you drop your child off and drive away. It's a place where you're invited in—into the life of the school, the rhythms of worship, and the beautiful, messy, meaningful work of growing kids into wise, virtuous, and joyful image-bearers of God.

*Why does community matter?*

- Your kids feel known and loved—not just by teachers, but by other parents and families too.
- You're not alone in the journey. Let's face it—raising kids in today's world is no small task. Having a village rooted in the same values is a gift.

- Our culture becomes contagious. When kids see adults loving, serving, and encouraging one another, it sticks.
- Big moments and small victories are shared. From memory recitations to spelling triumphs to a long-overdue breakthrough in Latin, we celebrate together.

Your presence and involvement strengthens our culture and blesses families. You meet other families, witness your child thriving, support teachers, and model servant leadership in tangible ways.

Joyful community looks like dads flipping burgers at the back-to-school picnic or helping set up for field day; moms organizing library shelves or sorting through uniforms in the school store; grandparents coming to have lunch with their grandkids; students praying for one another; and teachers going the extra mile because they love these kids—and our mission.

Serving is more than helping—it's belonging. Your child sees that you value their learning and invest in their world. Whether bringing muffins, joining Moms in Prayer, or even helping with Mesopotamia maps, there's always a way to contribute. So don't sit on the sidelines. Volunteering is not just about

filling a slot on a sign-up sheet—it's about weaving your life into the fabric of this school. When you give of your time, you're not only blessing others; you're also opening yourself to blessing. You'll form friendships, you'll experience the joy of shared purpose, and you'll watch your children light up when they see you invested in their world. The joy of school community isn't just a nice bonus—it's part of how God shapes all of us, young and old, into the people he's called us to be.

## QUID NOVI

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CLASS OF 2026 • John Gauger,  
Nancy Hall, Chris Misiano, Sam Mizener,  
Tom Rogers, Anne Umbarger  
CLASS OF 2027 • Dusty Miller, Court Shipman  
CLASS OF 2028 • Neil Bonhert, Scott  
McCurley, Leann Perault, Leland Seckman

### EX OFFICIO

John Heaton—Headmaster  
Davidson Morse—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**