

# NEW COVENANT PRESS

NEW COVENANT CHURCH “NEWSLETTER” Georgette Snook, Editor Issue #1 April 2018

Here’s something new for you! We intend to send out this “newsletter” once a month. It’s not meant to tell everything that is going on at New Covenant, nor will it take the place of the weekly bulletin or announcements. But we hope it will be both entertaining and informative. And it’s not always to be the work of only the editor. It is hoped that there will be some input from various church folks who want to share. Being an “editor” means checking articles for appropriateness for a church paper, and possibly for grammar, spelling, punctuation, etc. You will see from this edition of the paper that a variety of subjects will be accepted. Everything from personal experiences to poems, from jokes (decent ones) to articles about whatever from your reading, and everything in-between. (Oh, and—please, no political rants!) So if there is something that you would like to contribute, turn it in as early as possible in the month (Hopefully by the third Sunday or sooner) so it can be ready for the first week of the next month. Email it to my email address at [wsnook@gmail.com](mailto:wsnook@gmail.com). Or even better, you may hand it to me at church.

## WHAT OUR CHURCH HAS TO OFFER

We have a great, Bible-believing, Church here at New Covenant, with friendly, loving people, and a Preacher who has great sermons given from a perspective not usually found anywhere else. There are a number of activities for folks of various ages and interests. And if you forget to eat your breakfast before you come, there is a room at the front entrance where you can take care of that. You’ll be met by Robin, who will be glad to fill you up. (For a price!) And we sing our praises to the Lord every Sunday to the accompaniment of a live band. And so much more! What we don’t have is enough people to fill all the seats in the auditorium. Can you do anything to change that?

## OUR FAVORITE BOOK

Guess which one that is? There have been so many books written, that we can’t even begin to read them all—and if you are like me, you have some on your shelves that you still haven’t read, even if you paid good money for them! But there is one Book that tops them all. The Bible even tells us in John 21:25 that “There are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written.” and John 20:31 “but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.” How precious this Book is, for it contains the words of Life for us who belong to Jesus! It’s the Best Book ever, and the only book we should read every day, even if we can spare time for no other. Praise the Lord for giving us this wonderful book. Ask Him to help find the time to read some of it every day.

## HAPPY EASTER EVERYONE!!

When many of us were growing up in the early 1900s, Easter was celebrated in our churches with ladies wearing hats and gloves. It just wasn’t Easter without new clothes and shoes. And we went to Easter sunrise services too. Then we went home to a ham dinner, (after the Easter egg hunt.) And people who did not ordinarily go to church made sure to show up then. Of course we always had Easter vacation from school instead of Spring break. Candy and bunnies were part of it too.

But now, as then, sometimes the real meaning of Easter is ignored. Since Easter comes on April first this year—otherwise popularly known as April Fool’s Day, can’t you just hear the world calling Christians April Fools? (Let’s hope that doesn’t happen.) But that’s a very unusual date. No matter what the world thinks, it’s the celebration of the day Christ rose from the dead, and is now alive forever. Easter is also called Resurrection Day. How wonderful to think that even as Jesus was resurrected from the dead, so will we be if we are believers. We’ll be alive forever up in heaven with Him. And all that’s necessary is to “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved—” (Acts 16:31.) And we don’t even need to be dressed up in new Easter finery or go to a sunrise service, though that would be a nice way to celebrate. So Happy Easter, everyone. G.S

## STUDY IN CONTRASTS

Billy Graham died on February 21st, and then three weeks later Stephen Hawking died on March 14th. The contrast between these two world-famous men is extreme.

Graham had long been noted for his wonderful sermons in which he explained the Gospel and invited people to come to the Lord Jesus for salvation. The atheist Hawking, figured by many to be the smartest man ever, was responsible for the Big Bang Theory and other ungodly concepts that were the total opposite of Graham's beliefs and the truths given to us in the Bible.

Do you suppose the timing of the demise of these two men was just coincidental? They were both in God's hands, and He knew their final destination from before the world began. He knew that their beliefs and life's ministry would be totally contradictory to each other. And they illustrated the difference between the Way and the World

Let's hope that the lives of these two men will make people think; most especially that there are two contrasting destinations for those who have these two different views of God.

And for further contrast, we could add in Joni Earickson Tada, who, like Hawking, was paralyzed. And yet she has been famously outspoken in leading the world in a godly direction. Perhaps Hawking thought that if there were a God, He wouldn't be so unjust as to allow people to suffer such terrible things in this life? But no matter what a person might think of God, He is still there. And He is still God. And He is still in control. He always was, still is, and always will be. Praise His Name!

## ARE YOU PRAYING?

Every Sunday the bulletin reminds us that there are a number of needs in the church family that we should be praying for. But there are many requests that are not written in the bulletin. And don't forget that we have a prayer chain for when prayer is needed. How about getting yourself on this prayer chain so that you can bring them to the Lord with others who are praying? If God is moving you to do that, contact Diana at 530-272-7310.

## SIGNS OF THE TIMES

In Luke chapter 21, there was a discussion about the Temple, and Jesus said that it would be torn down. Then He was asked the all important question "When will this be, and what will be the sign when this is about to take place?" (And Jesus had an answer that is relevant for us today. It is found in verses 8 to 36. Read it and see for yourself.) Though His hearers were thinking in terms of their own times, what Jesus told them applies to us for sure. Modern authors could write books on what is going on today that Jesus prophesied to His hearers 2000 years ago. What He said in these verses is even more true for us now than to them then. Briefly, Jesus said that "The time is at hand." (verse 8) And again, in I John 2:18, it says that this is the last hour, and that many antichrists have come. (So many false teachers!)

In verses 10 and 11, the prophecies are that many will come; there will be wars and tumults--but the end will not come at once; nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes; there will be famines and pestilences; and terrors and great signs from heaven.

Then comes verse 12: persecution and being brought before kings and governors for His name's sake. (Taken to court for our beliefs) verses 16 and 17--being betrayed by relatives and friends; condemned to death and hated by all; verse 25--signs in the sun and moon and stars; and men fainting with fear and foreboding of what is coming on the world, and then in verse 27, the Son of Man will be seen coming in the a cloud with power and great glory! And verse 32 tells us that this generation (mankind) will not pass away till all has taken place. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!