

THE IGNITER



Dates to Remember:

- December 5th - Picture Re-Takes
 - December 8th - Christmas Shoppe
 - December 15th - Middle & High School Christmas Concert, 7PM
 - December 16th - Elementary Christmas Concert, 7PM
 - December 23rd - 11:15 Dismissal
- MERRY CHRISTMAS!**
HAPPY NEW YEAR!
- January 3rd - Classes Resume



Inside this issue:

Inclement Weather Policy	2
Banquet	2
Kilimanjaro	3
Health Note	4

“Remember when...”

In celebration of our 30th year, we have a trivia question in each edition of the *Igniter*. See if you can “Remember when...” and answer the following question:

How many students were in the first graduating class and what year was it?

Answer on page 4

Christmas

James Hubbard

The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the Holy One to be born will be called the Son of God." Luke 1:35

Wow! Doesn't it seem like time just flies by? It was almost a year ago that I began my role as Principal here at New Covenant and what a blessing it has been. I have learned so much from you and the children, and God has taught me many lessons. Some of those lessons required waiting, some praying and most included just listening. God has indeed been leading and we have been following. I am so thankful for a board and teachers and staff who really care about God's will for New Covenant. They take the time to pray and they really care about the heart of each student. God has taught us that we are here to be difference makers, to be change agents and to daily help your children understand the goodness of the Lord. Each day God has given us the wonderful opportunity to touch a student's life, to teach them about the importance of relationship, not just academics. God is teaching them the true meaning of spiritual

intimacy, or as one pastor shared - "in to me see" - the ability to open your heart up to the things of the Lord and let Him see in. Yes, God can see all things but He is looking for us to willingly open up to Him and His control. This is where a relationship can truly be formed.

Isn't it good to know that God NEVER changes and His mercies endure forever? He is in control and we are able to go to Him with all our hurts and concerns. How great it is that He allowed His Son to be born to become our Savior!

"Lord, thank You for sending Your Son as our Savior. Thank You for caring so deeply about us, even when we make mistakes and don't always follow Your plans. Lord, we love You so much; help us to carry the gift of Jesus' birth, death and resurrection in our hearts not just sometimes, but all year long. And Lord, help us to keep the joy of Thanksgiving on our lips and in our hearts in all that we do, so we can honor and bless You every day!" Amen

New Covenant, its Board, administration, teachers and staff pray that you all have a truly wonderful and blessed Christmas this year!

In Him,

James

U12 Soccer

Tania Meese

Congratulations to New Covenant Christian School's U12 Youth Soccer team – Lebanon Valley Youth Soccer League Boys U12 division finalists!

U12

Co -Coaches – James Hubbard and Marc Zeisloft

Assistant Coach – Bill Litman

Players –Daniel Bates, Alex Burns, David Hubbard, Carlos Vangeli, Annika Martin, Elijah Zeisloft, Abigail Zeisloft, Rebekah Zeisloft, Sam Simmiskis, Noah Litman, Evan Hoover, Jacinda Clarke, Isaac Balmer, Philip Embich

The Flames won 3-1 vs the Ebenezer – Union Canal (EUC) Shockers on Saturday, November 5th, in the league semi-finals and played the Lebanon Renegades on November 6th. They lost 0-1 in the final, and played a hard fought game. Well done, Flames!



Inclement Weather Procedures

For bad weather situations, New Covenant notifies the following radio and television stations for delays and closings:

FM Radio: WJTL (90.3), WDAC (94.5), WLBR (1270)

TV Stations: 27 ABC, Fox 43, WGAL-TV, WHP 21, UPN 15

Listen and watch for the [New Covenant Christian School](#) announcement.

Delays & School Cancellation

When New Covenant is **closed**, students should not report to New Covenant regardless of the status of your home school district.

If your home school district is **closed**, then your children are permitted to remain home without academic penalty and the absence is excused should New Covenant have classes that day. If New Covenant is in session and you are able to safely get your children to school, please do so; missed work if they are absent must be made up.

If your home school district has a **delayed opening** due to weather, your bus will run according to your school district's announcement. If your child is late to class as a result, it will not count as a tardy.

If there is a two-hour delay in the morning, students may not be brought to New Covenant before 9:30am.

Early Dismissals

During early dismissals, New Covenant has **ONE DISMISSAL TIME FOR EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT**. Some radio and television stations announce High School dismissal times and Elementary dismissal times. New Covenant follows the **High School dismissal time** for each school district because of the bussing arrangements made by those school districts.

Bus students will be dismissed from New Covenant upon arrival of their school district's bus.

Student drivers will be dismissed with their school district or Cornwall-Lebanon School District, whichever dismisses earlier. The building will remain open until all students have been dismissed.



Students who have **PARENT PICK-UP** will be permitted to leave at the time their school district dismisses. Students will remain in their classroom until their parents arrive at New Covenant. Please make arrangements to get your child(ren) as close to the announced dismissal time as possible.

Banquet

Amy Keller

God's faithfulness was once again evident on Friday, November 4th, at our annual Benefit Banquet. Over 130 supporters attended this fundraising event held at the school this year. Dennis Mellott, fine arts teacher, transformed the gymnasium into a Mediterranean café with columns, lights, greenery and a fountain. A delicious meal catered by Quentin Tavern, including Chicken Oscar, a prime rib carving station, potatoes, green beans, and an assortment of cheesecakes for dessert, was enjoyed by all.

The program began with Joshua Zimmerman, a former student and current parent, sharing through music and testimony. Joshua was joined by Brandon Peach, former student and English teacher, Paul Umble, former student, and Bryan Stevenson, former instrumental teacher, as they sang and played both original songs and some more familiar tunes.

Mr. James Hubbard, Principal, shared a video presentation and spoke on the theme of technology and social media as it relates to the way education is delivered and received and how different it is from when he grew up. "We are in the center of a storm of opportunity and distraction that overwhelms our children and our culture. Technology is the educational social storm that our culture is now dealing with." He went on to say

that "as Christians, we have hope and we can take heart because God is in control and New Covenant is in the business of following God's plan". Mr. Hubbard spoke with conviction as he shared his heart for where he felt God was leading New Covenant. "You see, it is about being relentless.; a relentless pursuit of God's will for ourselves, our children, and to New Covenant. A relentless pursuit to build children into heroes, to be difference makers, to become change agents. A relentless pursuit of the big picture and plan that God has for us, and a relentless pursuit to have our children get all this before we did."



This event is one of our largest fundraising events for the year. We feel blessed that even though charitable giving has dropped as much as 30% in some areas, giving for this event was up 55% from last year and

nearly met our goal of \$30,000. We want to say thank you to all the business sponsors who faithfully support this event and the multiple individual supporters who have blessed us abundantly. A huge thank you to the Banquet Committee: Vickie Hoover, Christy Shutter, Cori Summers, and Renee Thorpe.

We look forward to seeing you next year!

Climbing Kilimanjaro

Climbing Kilimanjaro has never been on my “bucket” list, but the journey of this past year...raising funds and awareness for children in Africa and finally making the desired goal, by way of the vigilant care and encouragement of dedicated team members and Tanzanian porters, is a journey I wouldn't trade. The expedition was replete with joyous times as well as moments of hardship mingled with awesome wonder.

At the base of the mountain, the village school visit was a highlight of the trip, as we were blessed by the love and enthusiasm of the Tanzanian children. Even struggles with the language barrier paled to the lively interactions between team members and African youngsters.

Lessons learned on the mountain were numerous...and always surrounded by breathtaking wonders. One simple lesson from nature was found in a flower native to the alpine regions. Called “Everlasting” by our Tanzanian guides, this beauty coexisted among the darkest rocks reminding the traveler step after step, mile after mile, that God's presence affords peace, solace, and even stunning beauty, in the midst of the darkest trials.

Atop the highest freestanding mountain, positioned amid glaciers and sun-swept cloud layers, my team members and I found ourselves very cold and exhausted, but astounded by awe-inspiring vastness. A unique joy rose as we realized this journey was about so much more than the summit. So many folks joined the team by graciously giving to meet the extreme needs of children in this part of the globe. The vision of last year's 4th grade class came to fruition as children's medicine and food needs were met through hard work, creativity, and service.

A small booklet, created by this year's 5th grade class, filled with words of encouragement and artwork, was tucked carefully into my back pack to be revealed along with a New Covenant Christian School tee shirt on the summit called Uhuru Point. This booklet brought great joy and inspiration to me and others on the expedition. Smiles stretched across the faces of porters as they viewed the class photo and artwork of the New Covenant students. Freddy and Mike, cheerful Tanzanian porters, played a vital role in getting that tee shirt to the “top of Africa”, as did the prayers and ardent encouragement of the New Covenant community!

The excursion was a triumph in teamwork as members took vigilant care of each other. Tanzanian porters and hosts not only taught us how to roast coffee, but how to dance, eat banana stew, and celebrate in African style! A heartfelt thank you goes out to all who supported me prayerfully and financially in this effort to bring “*maisha*”(life) to God's little ones in Africa.

Mrs. Agliotta with New Covenant T-shirt.

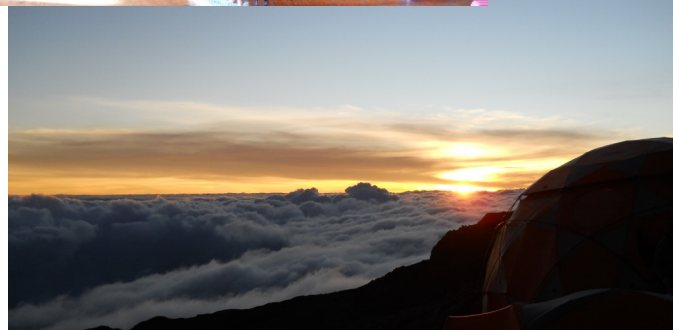


Colleen Agliotta



Mrs. Agliotta with school students

Sunset from Mountaintop



The team on top.

Ask anyone today, “How are you?”, and if you get an honest answer, one might be, “I am tired”.

One of the major problems in our society is insomnia. It seems something we are lacking is not all that easy to get.

What are some of the reasons you hear that people cannot sleep? Sometimes it is because of what we have eaten shortly before – too much of a stimulant, like caffeine in coffee, chocolate or soda, or too much sugar.

Sometimes the environment is too noisy – “others were keeping me awake – the TV, talking, snoring, loud music...”.

Sometimes it is the business and the noise of the day - a big test, project, bill, or problem. Our minds churn and turn with the cares of our day that are not so easy to figure out.

Some things we can and should take care of. For instance, what we eat – avoid sugary high energy foods after dinner, limit eating to a small high protein snack. What we do before bed matters; just as a small child can be trained to a simple routine to wind down the day (dress for bed, wash and brush, perhaps a drink, a story and a prayer), we can adopt a routine to train our brains for rest (lock up, dress, wash and brush, quiet time, perhaps reading, prayer).



Some things we cannot do much about – the noisy neighbor, the snoring family member, the baby crying with a need (well, we have to tend to that one!). We can ask others and communicate our own need, but some are, well, just hard to deal with.

But what about the really tough stuff? That big problem with no solution yet in sight? What about worry and stress – I believe one of the biggest thieves of our slumber?

One of the biggest helps I have found is in Jeremiah 33:3 – “Call to me and I will answer you, I will show you great and mighty things which you do not know.” When we are looking for those big answers to big (and small) problems, we can remember to call on God.

I Peter 5:7 says – “Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your cares upon Him, for He cares for you.” I recently read a quote from Victor Hugo, “Have courage for the great sorrows in life, and patience for the small ones. And when you have laboriously accomplished your daily tasks, go to sleep in peace, God is awake.”

“Behold, He that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.” (Psalm 121:4)

Remember tonight – our God is awake! Sweet dreams!



Trivia Answer:

16 Students in 2002