

# THE IGNITER



## Dates to know:

- October 3<sup>rd</sup> - Picture Day
- October 10<sup>th</sup> - No School
- October 21<sup>st</sup> - Elementary Friends and Family
- October 25<sup>th</sup> - Association Meeting 7PM

## Inside this issue:

Butterflies	2
Sports News	2
Kilimanjaro	3
Curriculum	3
AP/NC Online	4
Thank You	4
Updates	4

## “Remember when...”

### Trivia

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

***What year did the school open its doors for the first time and where was the location?***

## Service with a Smile

James Hubbard

Hi All,

My article this month is simply a big **thank you** to all of you for your giving and service to New Covenant this year. The Bible says in 2 Corinthians 9:12, “The service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord’s people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God”.

In the 10 months since I have been at New Covenant, we have been blessed over and over again by your willingness to serve! Thank you! There are so many of you that daily impact

New Covenant with some form of service that I cannot fit you all in one edition of the Igniter. However, here are some things I see often: posting lunches, chaperoning class trips, financial giving, helping in classrooms, cafeteria service, maintenance support, office assistance, helping in the library, blessing the teachers, bringing in food, kind words, assisting with athletics and so much more.

To all of you, and you know who you are, **THANK YOU!**

## See You at the Steps

Dave Scheirer

*“Practical prayer is harder on the soles of your shoes than on the knees of your trousers.”*

Austin O’Malley

Parents, faculty, school support staff and many students gathered on the morning of Wednesday, September 28, at 7:30am to join in prayer. We called it “See You at the STEPS”. S.T.E.P.S. stands for “Students, Teachers and Everyone Praying in the Spirit”, part of an international morning of prayer known as “See You at the Pole”. On this day thousands of students, staff, faculty and parents across the country and around the globe join together in prayer. Sixty people gathered from New Covenant to pray for the world, nation, our region, our school, family, friends, ourselves and more. We took time to give thanks for everything with which God has blessed us. Personal and corporate prayer was united for one 20-minute block of time before school began.

As traffic rumbled up and down Route 72, and we paused to give thanks to the Lord, I was blessed to realize that many of the people gathered on that morning want to be agents of change – for the good of the Lord – in

many ways. Whether it is a new roof for the school or peaceful resolutions in the Middle East, continued flood recovery work going on down our street or a relative recovering from a stroke, as I listened to the prayers going up all around me that morning, I was blessed to know how God’s people care. We want to see a better world with events and people improving.

This is a community of deep concern and care. May that be our contagion this year at New Covenant. May our care bring about action which brings about changes in which God calls us to be involved. May we see this prayer event as a beginning of a new season of continued prayer. Please pray for our students (first and foremost) and families, faculty and staff, and our culture, leaders and worldwide issues. You are an agent of change! And change begins with your prayer! May we all devote time and energy to simple prayer about whatever God Himself puts in our heads and hearts.

*“Prayer may not change things for you, but it for sure changes you for things.”*

Samuel M. Shoemaker



## Butterflies are Beautiful

Patti Cover

On a gorgeous September day, the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class made the short trek to the butterfly house at Hershey Gardens. The class started out the school year by studying butterflies. They even raised some Monarchs in our classroom. Letting them go is always the highlight as the children wave goodbye.

Hershey Gardens hosts many school groups in the spring and fall. We started our time there with all the groups and a refresher on the life stages of a butterfly. Then the students were divided and we rotated to different areas. We got to do a scavenger hunt in the Children's Garden first. One of their

favorite spots was the Japanese garden where they got to feed the huge koi swimming below the bridge. Even though they enjoyed the hunt, their favorite part was the butterfly house itself. The students were amazed as the butterflies landed all around them. Some even landed on the students. They got to see many varieties as well as the different types of chrysalises that accompany each type.

At the end of the day we all agreed that the day had gone by far too quickly. Many students said they would like the opportunity to go back and visit again!

## Sports News

### New Covenant Soccer

Jon Kok '13



The New Covenant Varsity Boys' soccer team has had a strong start to the season. We opened our season with a string of good performances in the Faith Rosetta tournament, which resulted in second place. We began regular season play at Bible Baptist, a game in which the final result was a 2-2 draw. Our following two games were away against the much larger Harrisburg Academy and Dayspring Christian School. Both of those games ended in wins in our favor. More recently we traveled north to play Palmerton, a public high

school. Although the game ended as a 2-3 loss, we played very well and are proud of our performance.

This year we have a very strong group of upperclassmen on the team and we have had a relatively good start to our season. It looks like it should be a challenging year since it's the school's first year in PIAA and the competition is much more difficult. Be sure to come out and see the soccer team play this year, as it looks to be a very exciting season as we attempt to make it into the District III playoffs.

### New Covenant Volleyball

Vanessa Haughton '13



The varsity volleyball team playing for New Covenant this year is working really hard. We have been given some new challenges because we are facing PIAA teams and I think so far we have done fairly well. The team lost five seniors to graduation, and we do not have any seniors this year. So we are a technically very young team and have a lot of growing and building to do. This season we have

played three PIAA teams and had very close matches with each of them. Unfortunately we did not come out with a victory yet, but the girls have played extremely well and I am confident that with a little more work we can pull out a fantastic season this year. We would all love to hear you cheering at our next home game, so come out and show your support for the New Covenant volleyball teams!

## Mrs. Agliotta to Scale Mt. Kilimanjaro

Colleen Agliotta

What do hiking boots, the Taste of Africa event, garage sales, horseback riding lessons, and empty medicine bottles have in common? In the last six months all these things have helped Mrs. Agliotta, as a part of the Climb Up So Kids Can Grow Up campaign, to raise funds and awareness for the life-giving work of American Foundation for Children with AIDS (AFCA). This organization provides medical treatment and support to children in Africa infected or affected by the HIV/AIDS virus.

On October 1<sup>st</sup> a team of fourteen women, including Mrs. Agliotta, will leave for Tanzania, East Africa, to climb the highest free-standing mountain (not part of a range) in the world. Each team member committed to raise thousands of dollars for the AFCA mission and to train for this endurance climb. Once in Tanzania, team members will have the opportunity to visit a local school while acclimating to the altitude near base camp. Next, the team will begin a five day ascent through eco systems ranging from rain forest to arctic. As the team arrives at the top of Mt. Kilimanjaro, known as the "Roof of Africa"- an elevation of 19,340 feet - they will be reminded that this expedition is not about them, but about so many children in Africa who need a voice to speak out for them.

As donations came in, AFCA put them to use immediately. Here is what has been accomplished so far through this fundraising campaign:

\*Medical supplies affecting 30,000 people in Papoli, Uganda

\*School supplies for 800 children in Papoli, Uganda

\*Medical supplies affecting 170,000 people in Kilembe Mines, Uganda

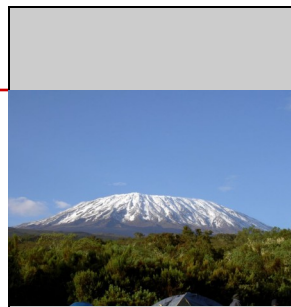
\*2,475,000 doses of antibiotics for children to keep full blown AIDS at bay in 35 clinics throughout Uganda

\*Porridge, milk and oil for 1600 children (twice daily) for 4 months in Mombasa and Voi, Kenya

\*Nevirapine, an anti-retroviral drug for 500 children and mothers in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe

Many thanks go out to all New Covenant folks who have supported this effort, including the team's pro bono coach, Anne Hubbard, individuals who gave monetary gifts, and especially the present 5th grade class, whose caring vision inspired the Taste of Africa event last spring!

Follow the climbing team's blog while they are in Tanzania from October 1<sup>st</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> at <http://www.climbupsokidscangrowup2.blogspot.com/>.



## Elementary Curriculum

Stephanie Snyder

Two new curricula, in Language Arts and Math, have been introduced in New Covenant's elementary grades. Both include robust Internet based components and are aligned with the Common Core State Standards which Pennsylvania has adopted and is transitioning to within the public school system. This summer, teachers attended professional development workshops for training in the implementation of *Lead 21* and *Everyday Mathematics Common Core State Standards* edition.

*Everyday Mathematics*, utilized in grades K through 6, has been updated to the hot-off-the-press Common Core State Standards edition. *Everyday Mathematics* integrates online technology to make teaching easier and learning more fun. Online components are now fully integrated in order to provide a complete, interactive classroom solution for both students and teachers. Teachers and parents can now reinforce skills mastery through challenging and fun games online. *Everyday Mathematics Games* also provide an easy-to-use management system that provides teachers with detailed reports on the skills learned



through each game.

(<http://www.everydaymath.com/index.php>)

*Lead 21* takes digital integration a step further, providing every student access to 21<sup>st</sup>

century technology to manage and extend their own learning accessed through their own homepage. Digital tools include a virtual online coach, ebooks, epractice, and etools 21. The virtual online coach extends teaching for each Differentiated Reader. All books used in the program are available online at the ebook tab. Students access unit specific practice activities for vocabulary, comprehension, and writing with epractice. And etools 21 is an interactive resource that supports all the 21<sup>st</sup> century skills

students need: writing, inquiry, collaboration, vocabulary development, an interactive glossary, and a class Theme Wall. *Lead 21* is being implemented in New Covenant's Kindergarten, First, and Second Grade classrooms this year, and will be extended through grade 5 in the 2012-13 school year.



## AP Courses and NC Online

Stephanie Snyder

New Covenant Christian School is now partnering with Sevenstar Academy to offer a selection of AP (advanced placement) and elective online courses to both expand and enhance the high school learning experience available at New Covenant. All online courses are consistent with a biblical worldview and are taught by either New Covenant or Sevenstar faculty.

AP courses are college-level courses taken during high school. More than 90 percent of four-year colleges in the United States give students credit, advanced placement or both on the basis of AP exam scores. AP credits may allow students to move into upper level courses, pursue a double-major or study abroad. (<http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/ap/about.html>)

Seven New Covenant faculty have received training to teach courses for NC Online; courses taught by



New Covenant faculty include AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Computer Science, AP English Language and Composition, AP United States Government, AP World History, SAT Prep, and Personal Fitness. There are currently five students enrolled in courses through NC Online. In addition to working on the courses at home, students may use study hall periods to work on their NC Online courses.

Tuition and fees for NC Online courses are in addition to regular school tuition and fees, and are not eligible for tuition scholarships.

**It is not too late to enroll in NC Online courses for the 2011-12 school year! It is not necessary to be a New Covenant Christian School student to enroll in these courses! To learn more about NC Online and the complete catalog of courses available, visit New Covenant's website, [www.nccspa.org](http://www.nccspa.org), and click on the NC Online button.**



## Thank You in the Storm

James Hubbard

In recent weeks we have felt the power of Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee. This one-two punch significantly impacted our campus, damaging the roof and flooding the basement. Yet in the storm so many of you willingly helped to dry us out and clean us up. Again, thank you!!

A special thank you must also go to those of you who helped with the beautiful transformation of the faculty lounge. It is absolutely stunning! The room is now a lovely, comfortable, homey and inviting place to eat lunch or have meetings. Thanks for your work, perseverance, and artistic flair. We can

assure you that your work is greatly appreciated. For those of you who have not had the pleasure of seeing the room, we invite you to drop by to take a look.

Once again, thank you all for your willingness to sacrifice for the Lord and New Covenant Christian School.

Sincerely,  
James

## Faculty and Staff Updates

Stephanie Snyder

The school year is off to a strong start, with some changes in faculty and staffing assignments in place for 2011-12. Highlights include:

- Mrs. Rachel Rohrer** – NEW PreKindergarten Aide
- Mrs. Jenna Neslund** – Has moved to First Grade to meet our need for two classes at that grade level.
- Mrs. Heidi Brubaker** – NEW Librarian and KidZone
- Pastor Dave Scheirer** – Now 6<sup>th</sup> grade Bible, Spiritual Life Classes for grades 6-9 and 12<sup>th</sup>, and continuing to develop the role of Student Pastor
- Mrs. Kelly Vangeli** – Now teaching 7<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Bible in addition to 6<sup>th</sup> grade

- Mrs. Stephanie Snyder** – Now 7<sup>th</sup> grade Bible
- Mr. Justyn Shepler** – Now Physical Education instructor all grades, 9<sup>th</sup> grade Bible, Sociology, and Athletic Director
- Mr. Bill Litman** – Now 10<sup>th</sup> grade Bible
- Dr. Irv Siegel** – NEW Language Arts instructor grades 8 – 12, College-in-the-High School
- Mrs. Michelle Yenser** – Now teaching all math from PreAlgebra to PreCalculus

### Trivia Answer:

Year: 1982

Location:

Lebanon Christian

Fellowship

118 N. 14<sup>th</sup> St., Lebanon