

# COVENANT CHRONICLE

## A NEWSLETTER FOR COVENANT CHURCH PCA OF FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS

### Pastor's Note

Dr. Paul Sagan



The harvest season always reminds us of everything for which we should be thankful. In what has been a trying year for many in our congregation, the words of the Johnson Oatman hymn written in 1892 seem especially appropriate:

When upon life's billows you are tempest-tossed,  
When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,  
Count your many blessings, name them one by one,  
And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.

Are you ever burdened with a load of care?  
Does the cross seem heavy you are called to bear?  
Count your many blessings, every doubt will fly,  
And you will keep singing as the days go by.

So, amid the conflict whether great or small,  
Do not be discouraged, God is over all;  
Count your many blessings, angels will attend,  
Help and comfort give you to your journey's end.

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*Our purpose is to glorify God by  
loving Him and loving people.*

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As believers we are to gain our perspective over everything from the Cross and the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. When we do this, doubt is replaced by hope and sorrow is replaced by joy.

Many in our congregation have gone through exceptional trials this year. Holidays such as Thanksgiving can be a time when those trials are magnified especially when we either consciously or unconsciously associate them with the loss and suffering we have experienced. When we look to people and things in this world to satisfy us, we will

always be disappointed. When we look to Christ to satisfy us, we will never be disappointed.

Indeed we have much to be thankful for in the way of temporal blessings as well as the rich spiritual blessings we have been heaped us in the Gospel this Thanksgiving season. Let our hearts cry with the Apostle Paul, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places." (Eph 1:3 ESV)

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## Session Report

Noted the transfer to the rolls of Redeemer Presbyterian Church, Siloam Springs, AR: Melena Wenger and her six children, Jay and Kathryn Bruce and children, Scott and Cindy McClymonds and children.

The Session thanked God for his abundant mercy in providing for our needs, including some favorable responses to the need for financial support to the educational ministry of Ruling Elder (RE) Golden. Session also rejoiced with Teaching Elder (TE) Atkinson for the recent improvement in giving for CWI NA.

Commissioners reported on the recent activity associated with Covenant Presbytery regarding our

resolution concerning a new PCA church plant scheduled to start in June 2013 in Fayetteville by Covenant Presbytery.

The Session agreed to hold the 2013 Session Retreat at the home of RE Redwine January 11-12, 2013 and then present information to the congregation at a date after that.

RE R. Chewning agreed to serve another term as elder with the class of 2015, along with RE House.

The Session approved closing nominations for church officers on October 28, 2012. Session approved TE Stephen Atkinson as the 2013 Missions Conference speaker.

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## Deacons Report

### **Benevolence**

Deacons discussed the most efficient means of helping the victims of Hurricane Sandy. Pastor Paul will contact the PCA committee responsible for this type of relief.

### **Facilities Maintenance**

We are still waiting on quote on for the new bar for the south door. We will be looking at pricing for roll up doors for kitchen.

The idea of using some of the church's land to set up sport courts (volleyball, basketball, soccer, etc) was discussed.

Continued renovations of the shed were discussed.

### **Transportation**

The handle on the van is broken for the passenger side. Catalytic converter was replaced on the Yukon.

### **Technology**

Copier may need repair. Update blue cards with check box of via website or Internet.

## Financial Summary

<b>General Fund</b>	<b>JAN-OCT</b>
Non Designated Giving	\$206,762
Designated Giving	\$ 19,594
Total Giving	\$226,357
Total Expenditures	\$235,981
Balance	\$ 9,624

## CONTACTS

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### DEACONS

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