

# **New Covenant PCA First of the Year Church Plant Meeting 2014 January 12, 2014**

## **Matters of Praise to God**

- The Lord answered our prayers for ten new families. Though we have had to say goodbye to so many who have moved away, we have received many new believers into this fellowship.
- We prayed for financial provisions and our giving was \$20,000 above what we budgeted and our spending was \$25,000 below what we budgeted.
- The Lord opened the door for us to start a ministry at the Gabriel's House Ranch (a Christian foster care home).
- We were able to partner with the YMCA in doing a one day VBS in June.
- A believer in a sister (PCA) congregation approached us about wanting to help us get into a more permanent location. We continue to look for the right property. Until then, the Lord secured the City Center for 2013 and has also enabled us to be in it through 2014.
- The Lord answered prayers for safe travels for Doris and Ron Weeks in all their comings and goings in and from the Congo; the Lord also graciously answered prayers for those in our congregation who underwent surgeries; and in healing Bill Jones after his complications from knee replacement surgery.
- The provisional session approved our supporting Mike Cuneo (missionary in Viterbo, Italy) in 2014. This is something we have been wanting to do for four years. We praise God that we can start being a mission supporting church.
- We were able to hire our first full time secretary.
- We began working on Songbooks and started printing a Monthly newsletter.
- We had the opportunity to sing Gospel truth, give out church cards and Scriptures in the Richmond Hill Christmas parade.

- We made great progress with regard to the work of our committees. The many diligent labors helped us tighten up our music, nursery, mercy ministries, set-up, meals, etc.

### **Areas of Needed Growth**

- A greater zeal for reaching our neighbors, co-workers and unbelieving friends with the Gospel. A greater commitment to invite those around us to New Covenant. If everyone in the church would prayerfully labor to see one family come to New Covenant during the year the church would double in size. It is impossible to reads the Scriptures (*e.g.* the book of the Acts of the Apostles) and not see that this is fundamental to the life of a healthy church.
- A greater care for the people in our congregation that we do not know well. This is challenging due to the high rate of transition in this town, but ought to be something that we are all committed to together. It will take prayer, intentionality and effort, but the Lord has promised to bless our labors if they are done for the glory of His name.
- A greater zeal for personal devotions and family worship.
- A greater zeal for discipleship.
- A greater commitment to the many “means of grace” meetings of New Covenant (*i.e.* men’s group, women’s group, Wednesday night small group, Sunday school, etc.)
- A greater number of congregants serving in the various needs of the church.
- A greater commitment to public prayer together.

### **Pastor Batzig's 2013 Preaching and Teaching**

The following is a list of sermons, lectures or other teaching ministries in which Rev. Batzig has been involved throughout the 2013 year.

- January 2013-October 2013 – 35 sermons on the book of Hebrews.
- April 2013 – 1 Easter sermon
- December 2013 – 3 Advent sermons
- October 2013 – December 2013 – 8 sermons on the book of Romans.
- January 2013- December 2013 – 8 New Members Classes.
- January 2013-December 2013 – 19 Upper Room (Men's Leadership Groups).
- January 2013-December 2013 – 12 Tuesday evening Emmaus Session lectures.
- August 2013 –A lecture on "Baptism in the Reformed Tradition" given at the Savannah River Presbytery Conference.
- January 2013-December 2013 – 28 Wednesday night studies (mid-week, youth and Magnolia Manor).
- October- December 2013 – 3 Wednesday Night's of teaching the Youth Group.

### **Pastor Batzig's 2013 Writing and Publishing**

- Rev. Batzig wrote 3 articles for Ligonier Ministries and Tabletalk Magazine during the Jan. 2013-Oct. 2013 period.
- Rev. Batzig accepted an invitation to be the editor of The Christward Collective – a ministry of the Alliance of Confessing Evangelicals. He wrote 8 articles for the ministry in 2013.

### **Session, Presbytery and General Assembly Work**

The Provisional Session of New Covenant PCA met 9 times from January 2013-December 2013.

- Rev. Batzig served on the Candidates and Credentials Committee of the Savannah River Presbytery. In 2013, the Committee met four times to exam a total of 10 men for licensure or ordination. This includes reading theological papers and exams and administering verbal exams prior to Presbytery.
- Rev. Batzig served on the Nominating Committee of the General Assembly of the PCA. He made one trip to Atlanta in January of 2013 and served on the Committee at General Assembly in June in Greenville, SC.

### **Church Related Projects in 2013**

- Lead a joint children's ministry outreach Vacation Bible School in conjunction with the Richmond Hill YMCA. The Batzig's hosted 20-25 families who visited the church from January 2013-October 2013.
- Rev. Batzig and Mark Bowyer, chair of the music committee, planned and designed a songbook for New Covenant. We are currently in the printing stage of that work.
- Rev. Batzig and Robyn Kretschmar designed and ordered mugs to give out to visitors who have come to New Covenant.
- Rev. Batzig designed new info cards for New Covenant. We are in the printing stage of this work.
- Rev. Batzig has been planning and designing a welcome brochure for visitors. We are nearing the printing stage of that project.
- Rev. Batzig met with the committee chairs of New Covenant 3 times from January 2013 – December 2013.
- Rev. Batzig met with various individuals concerning the potential building project.
- Rev. Batzig edited and published 68 sermon/lecture audios to the church website, and 51 videos.