



# *the* **New Covenant** *Window*

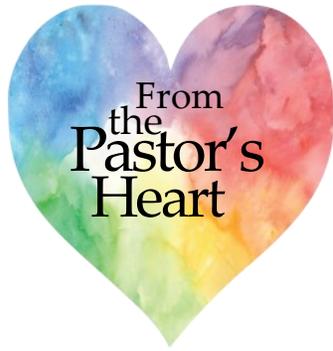
## Take A Look Inside

From the Pastor's Heart.....Page 2  
Updates & Events.....Page 3  
Recipe & Birthdays.....Page 4



*Sharing God through love and service.*

## The Sun Shines



Greetings New Covenant Family!

As I write to you today, I sit in my “home office” where the chair at my desk faces out a window. The blinds are open and the sun is shining. We had rain last night with just enough thunder to make the dogs a little uncomfortable. Our older dog, Flower, especially dislikes storms. But thanks to that storm and a touch of rain this morning, the weather is cooler and will be for several days. For this I give thanks.

I am especially thankful for the cooler weather because...our air conditioner downstairs is broken...again. You may remember that we spent weeks...no, months...last winter and early summer having issues with this unit. And here we are again. In this season of change, there are a few things I would like to offer up for change...our ever busted heating and cooling unit is one of them. Why is it that the things we wish would change seem to stay the same while those that we cling to the tightest are pulled from our grasp?

In both Matthew and Luke, Jesus says that we can't serve two masters, specifically, we can't serve both God and money. In this unique time for contemplation and reflection, if we dare to trust ourselves...to trust God to know the truth about us...I wonder what idols we may have discovered over the last couple of months. As a culture, we move fast, really fast. We don't have time (or don't take time) to stop, look, listen...the beauty around us...what God wants us to see, hear, experience.

We are beginning the process of exploring how we will eventually come back together. If you haven't filled out the survey sent to you, I hope that you will get that done soon. And we all know at some level that there will have to be changes in the way that we've always done things for us to be together and be safe...to do no harm. So I'm going to challenge you to do something that I suspect will be very difficult for you because it's very difficult for me. Each day, let us consider (begin with just a moment and build from there) our worship and life together. Consider the pieces that we feel that we can't live without. And then ask God to show us if those pieces are about God or our idols. Since I'm a little terrified of this exercise, I'm going to say that if you're a bit afraid of doing this, that's probably a healthy thing. The hardest part of my own prayer life is when I strive to set aside my own ego and desires to listen for what God wants. Surely it's hard for you too. If you find this to be easy...don't tell me. You'll just make me feel bad about myself. :) Soon we will begin a conversation about what is essential knowing that we will all be giving up some of what makes us happy or comfortable...every one of us. I am comforted in knowing that it is easier for God to mold me to be used for God's purposes in my dis-ease than in my comfort.

Lastly...I have heard from some about how much you miss seeing the inside of our church and that online worship might be experienced as more meaningful if it was filmed in the sanctuary. I haven't yet taken the time to ask God if this is about me or God.... Yet part of loving God is loving people. So we are working to strike a balance. Loving people includes not placing anyone at unnecessary risk and most of those who assist with worship in some way are at higher risk. So to strike a balance, Jeff Browning, Barbara Reed and I will be working over the next week (or longer if it becomes necessary) to work out kinks so that my portion of the service can come to you from the sanctuary. We hope to start on May 17th.

I pray for each of you by name every day and hope that you continue to pray for me and others in our church family. I miss you and long for the day when we can safely be together again. For now, wash your hands, wear your mask when you go out, stay six feet from those you don't live with and join me in church online.

Peace be with you.

*Pastor Dana*

## Update on Project Transformation

In consultation with the national Project Transformation leadership, Project Transformation will not be conducting in-person reading with children or the dinner for interns this summer. Rather than the usual contingent of 125 summer interns, Project Transformation will only be hiring 35 summer interns. The program this year is shifting to 8-week virtual summer programming (June 8-July 31) and four components:

Purchasing 50 "summer camps in a bag" which will be provided by New Covenant through mission funds. The bags will be supplied by Toy Maven and will be pre-packaged to complement virtual literacy and social-emotional activities provided by Project Transformation staff and interns.

Project Transformation will be distributing grab-and-go meals, as well as program and household supplies to students in the program. Two or three volunteers are needed to sanitize, organize, and distribute supplies tentatively June 15-19 in the Pleasant Mound UMC parking lot Monday-Thursday, 10 am-2 pm. Volunteers must comply with health and safety guidelines and be ages 18-64.

An 8-week prayer initiative.

Assembling 100 household supply bags to help ease the economic burden families are facing. The bags are to include basic household supplies from a list which will be provided. Supply bags would be dropped off at New Covenant on a Sunday afternoon in June or July for delivery to a Project Transformation church site on the next Monday morning.

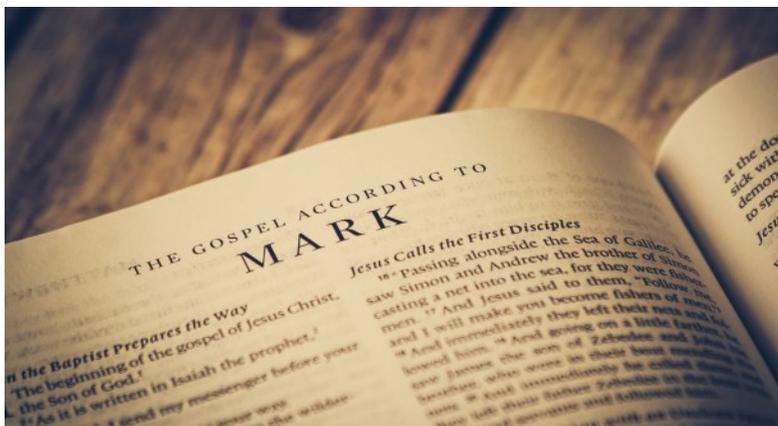
**Please let me know as soon as possible** if you can make a commitment to provide a specific number of household supply bags or would like to participate as a volunteer distributing food and supplies. Thanks so much for your support and prayers for Project Transformation in the new challenges the summer will present.

John Elfers jaelfers@yahoo.com or (469) 951-8407

Tuesday's at 7:00 pm  
Via Zoom  
Meeting ID:  
959 8524 7753



*Women's*  
BIBLE STUDY



## Gospel of Mark Bible Study

Thursday's at 7:00 pm  
Via Zoom  
Meeting ID: 939 7551 6636

## S&S Strawberry Bread

### Ingredients:

- 3 c sifted flour
- 1 t baking soda
- 1 t salt
- 1 T cinnamon
- 2 c sugar
- 4 beaten eggs
- 1 1/4 c vegetable oil
- 2 c chopped strawberries
- 1 1/4 c pecans



### Instructions:

- Preheat oven to 350°F
- Sift dry ingredients together.
- Mix the rest of the ingredients and add to dry ingredients.
- Mix just enough to moisten. Pour into two greased standard-sized loaf pans.
- Bake for about 50 minutes.
- Let cool for 5 minutes before removing from pans. Finish cooling on wire racks.



- |                           |                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>6:</b> Linda Gray      | <b>21:</b> Marian Conteh  |
| <b>11:</b> Sam Willis     | <b>22:</b> Larry Atherton |
| <b>13:</b> Princess Carew | <b>29:</b> Mark Bolger    |
| <b>14:</b> Jim Handy      | <b>30:</b> Beverly Norton |

**LIVE STREAM**  
**SUNDAYS @ 9:00 AM**  
**WORSHIP TOGETHER**

[facebook.com/NCUMCSunnyvale](https://facebook.com/NCUMCSunnyvale) OR  
[www.newcovenantumc.com](http://www.newcovenantumc.com)