

WE. WILL. RUN: A UNITED, RELENTLESS PURSUIT OF ALL THAT GOD HAS FOR US.

Don't you realize that everyone who runs in a race runs to win, but only one runner gets the prize? Run like them, so that you can win. 25 Everyone who enters an athletic contest goes into strict training. They do it to win a temporary crown, but we do it to win one that will be permanent. 26 So I run—but not without a clear goal ahead of me. 1 Corinthians 9:24-26 (GW)

Paul says in these verses that he runs with a clear goal ahead of him. In this guide you will find why New Covenant exists, your role at New Covenant, and all that we hope to accomplish in the future.

The aim of this guide is to set a clear goal in front of each person here at New Covenant. How can we know where to run, or how

hard to run, if we have no idea where we are going?

Whether you've been with us a long time or visiting us for the first time, the pages that follow will provide more information about our beliefs and our future. As you read through this and attend services, pray to God and see what His desire is for your life. We pray that you will engage with us in a united and relentless pursuit of all that God has for us.

We will run the race that has been set before us. We will stay in our lane and do what God has called this local body of believers to do.

Let's do this!

We. Will. Run.

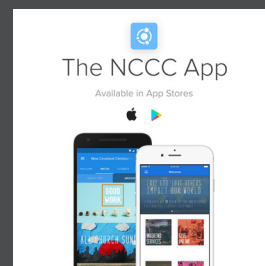
Pastor Josh and Alicia Carmody

NCCCFD.ORG

Stay up to date on everything going on at NCCC by visiting our website.

NEW COVENANT APP

You can also download our app! This is the easiest way to stay in touch with NCCC on the go! You can also receive specific and general notifications sent right to your smart phone. This app is available in all major app stores. Search "New Covenant FD" in your app store today!



What does New Covenant believe?

We believe in you! No matter who you are, what you've done, or what you've been through, God loves you just as you are and so do we. For an in-depth look at our beliefs go to ncccf.org/beliefs.

Is New Covenant affiliated with a denomination?

We are a non-denominational church. This means that we are not affiliated with any particular denomination.

Are donations made to New Covenant tax deductible?

Yes. New Covenant operates as a non-profit in the State of Iowa and enjoys federal tax exempt status as a 501(c)(3) organization. You will receive a giving summary in January for the previous year's giving.

How is New Covenant led?

New Covenant is led by the lead pastor, but is under the ultimate authority of our church by-laws and local governing board. Our board is composed of people who have belonged to the church for many years.

Q&A

REACHING OUR COMMUNITY

GO TO NCCCFD.ORG/OUTREACH FOR A COMPLETE LIST

WE FINANCIALLY SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING LOCAL MINISTRIES EVERY MONTH:

The Beacon of Hope Men's Homeless Shelter

Church of the Damascus Road

Community Christian School

GAP Ministry

Gateway to Discovery

Icky's Youth Center

KJYL Christian Radio Station

Meals on Wheels

Lotus House

Upper Des Moines Opportunity Inc.

YEARLY FREE OIL CHANGE FOR SINGLE MOMS AND WIDOWS:

Every October we offer a free oil change for single moms and widows. Laughlin Auto Repair along with Tom Donney Motors provide the space and the lifts, and we supply the man power. This is a great opportunity to help our community and to get your hands dirty! Call the church if you are interested in helping.

THE GIVING TREE:

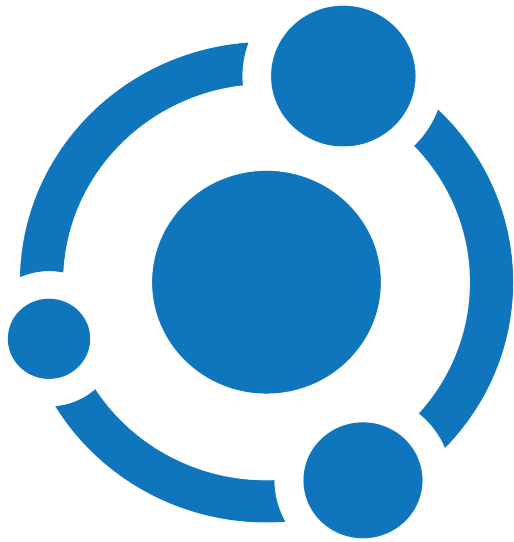
Every December, we partner with Upper Des Moines Opportunity to bring Christmas gifts to families. You simply buy gifts for some deserving families! We are able to buy gifts for around 100 people each year!

ANNUAL NO FEAR ZONE FOR PRE-SCHOOL - 6TH GRADERS AND THEIR FAMILIES:

Over 300 kids, along with over 500 other family members, attend this great event every year. This event is full of inflatables, party games, snacks, prizes and so much more! This is one FUN event!

MEALS ON WHEELS:

Meals on Wheels is a non-profit program that delivers a nutritious meal, friendly visit, and safety check to seniors and others unable to leave their homes. New Covenant delivers meals once every 6-7 weeks. Call the church at 515-955-6222 to help!



ABOUT THE LOGO

People ask us all the time, "What is the meaning of the logo?" That is a great question!

We originally designed this logo for our Community Groups. If you pretend that you are a bird flying in the sky you would see three people with their arms around each other, centered around a table. We believe that life happens in community and that it is not good for mankind to live in isolation.

We gather in unity during the week and during Sunday services to center our lives on the saving power of Jesus Christ. He is at the heart of everything we do. We want to be a diverse community of people transformed by the love of Jesus Christ. This logo reminds us of this desire.

CONNECT WITH US

START

Start is a three part video study (1 hour total) intended to introduce you to New Covenant and help you fulfill God's purpose in your life. You will learn more about New Covenant, who you are, and who we are together! Go to nccfd.org/start for more information!



MOPS & MOMSNEXT

MOPS is designed for moms of preschoolers, and MOMSnext is for moms of school-aged children. The groups meet simultaneously and feature biblical teaching, connecting time with other moms, and on-site childcare. Go to nccfd.org/mops for more information!

COMMUNITY
groups



Community Groups are an important part of who we are as a church. We believe that life change occurs as we are growing in a relationship with Christ. This happens best when we are in relationships with others who are seeking this same goal. Community Groups provide you with the opportunity to connect with others and grow in your relationship with Christ. Go to nccfd.org/communitygroups for more info!

CR CELEBRATE RECOVERY

Celebrate Recovery provides a healing, safe environment for adults affected by hurts, hang-ups, and habits. At Celebrate Recovery, you will hear about the healing power of Jesus Christ through the eight recovery principles. These biblical principles not only allow us to grow spiritually, but free us from our sinful nature, drawing us closer to a stronger personal relationship with God and others. Go to nccfd.org/cr for more info!

WHY WE EXIST:

New Covenant exists to love God, love others, and impact our world.

1 LOVE GOD

Matthew 22:36-37 (NLT) "Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?" 37 Jesus replied, "You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind."

We see in this scripture that loving God with our entire self - our heart, soul, and mind - is the most important thing we could ever do! Our desire at New Covenant is to be a people who sincerely love God with every fiber of our being.

2 LOVE OTHERS

Matthew 22:39 (NLT) A second is equally important: Love your neighbor as yourself.

We see in this scripture that loving others, as we learn to love ourselves, is the next commandment we receive from Jesus! This scripture tells us that this is not a lesser command but an equally important command! Our desire at New Covenant is to be a people who sincerely love others without showing any partiality or judgement.

3 IMPACT OUR WORLD

As we seek to love God and others, New Covenant has a strong mission emphasis and desire to reach the nations with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. You can read about this emphasis in the pages to come.

*"If people
can't see what
God is doing,
they stumble
all over
themselves;
But when
they attend
to what he
reveals, they
are most
blessed."
Proverbs 29:18*

WHY YOU BELONG:

To be a part of a diverse community of people transformed by the love of Jesus.

1 PART OF A DIVERSE COMMUNITY

We are all called to live a life not in isolation but in community. Dietrich Bonhoeffer said, "Sin demands to have a man by himself. It withdraws him from the community. The more isolated a person is, the more destructive will be the power of sin over him." You are not here by accident. You are here to be a part of a diverse (showing a great deal of variety) and unified community of believers.

2 TRANSFORMED

Romans 12:2 (NLT) Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

God wants to transform your life but you need to let Him work in you. As you spend time with God, and with others in community, you begin to change the way you think and your life transforms. We want you to know God's will for your life.

3 BY THE LOVE OF JESUS

Here it is again...Love. We can't get away from it and chances are you will hear us talk about it time and time again. The love of Jesus is what caused Him to selflessly die on the cross for our sins. We are capable of love and transformation because Jesus first loved us.



VALUES

Everyone lives by a code that explains why they make the decisions they make. A church is no different. Below is a work in progress but is generally the “why” behind our decisions. It is also the culture that we’re building at New Covenant.

AUTHENTICITY:

We want to be real, share our struggles, share our victories, encourage others, and have a united attitude of accountability.

James 5:16 (MSG) Make this your common practice: Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you can live together whole and healed. The prayer of a person living right with God is something powerful to be reckoned with.

BIBLE ENGAGEMENT:

The Bible is good for forming our beliefs, showing us the way to go, helping us get back on track, and changing our lives from the inside out.

2 Timothy 3:15-17 (MSG)...There's nothing like the written Word of God for showing you the way to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 16 Every part of Scripture is God-breathed and useful one way or another—showing us truth, exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God's way. 17 Through the Word we are put together and shaped up for the tasks God has for us.

CURRENT COMMUNICATION:

We embrace the message of the

Bible, and we seek to get that message out using teaching, life-experiences, and unified, Jesus-centered worship.

Ecclesiastes 12:10 (MSG) The Quester did his best to find the right words and write the plain truth.

DOING LIFE TOGETHER:

In community, we pray for each other, serve with one another, have fun together, grow together, and experience life together.

Hebrews 10:24-25 (MSG) Let's see how inventive we can be in encouraging love and helping out, 25 not avoiding worshipping together as some do but spurring each other on, especially as we see the big Day approaching.

EXCELLENCE:

We do our level best in all that we do, whether it's our communication and music, the greeting in the parking lot, the FREE coffee and treats in our clean building, or the way we have ministry for the whole family.

Philippians 4:8 (MSG) Summing it all up, friends, I'd say you'll do best by filling your minds and meditating on things true, noble, reputable, authentic, compelling, gracious—the best, not the worst;

the beautiful, not the ugly; things to praise, not things to curse.

FAITH:

Faith in Jesus Christ is the firm foundation that makes life worth living and because of our faith in Christ, we can find hope, joy, peace, and abundant life!

Romans 15:13 (MSG) Oh! May the God of great hope fill you up with joy, fill you up with peace, so that your believing lives, filled with the life-giving energy of the Holy Spirit, will brim over with hope!

GROWTH:

We want you to grow in your love for God, love for others, and your desire to make an impact right where you are.

Ephesians 3:16-19 (MSG) I ask him to strengthen you by his Spirit—not a brute strength but a glorious inner strength—17 that Christ will live in you as you open the door and invite him in. And I ask him that with both feet planted firmly on love, 18 you'll be able to take in with all followers of Jesus the extravagant dimensions of Christ's love. Reach out and experience the breadth! Test its length! Plumb the depths! Rise to the heights! 19 Live full lives, full in the fullness of God.



God sent His Holy Spirit to earth a couple thousand years ago to birth the church in power. He did this so that people everywhere would become disciples through a life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ.

We, as individuals who make up the church, have experienced this radical life change and have accepted the call to run the race set before us. The following pages give us vision to see why and where we are running.

1 Corinthians 9:24–27 (NLT)
Don't you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize? So run to win! All athletes are disciplined in their training. They do it to win a prize that will fade away, but we do it for an eternal prize. So I run with purpose in every step. I am not just shadowboxing. I discipline my body like an athlete, training it to do what it should.

This verse challenges us to run a race in such a way as to win

it! I don't know how many actual races you have completed in life, but it is difficult to WIN races! This verse tells us to run in a way that would cause us to be victorious!

We run to victory through discipline, purpose, and training. Discipline is a fun word, isn't it? Discipline is obeying a code. In order to run the race set before us, we need to obey a code. This code is found in scripture.

*We run to
 victory through
 discipline,
 purpose, and
 training.*

Hebrews 12:1 (NLT) *Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily*

trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.

Discipline gives us endurance. Discipline allows us to strip off every weight that slows us down and every sin that tries to stop us.

We are also to run with purpose. What is our purpose? Victory! We are not here to be better than someone else or better than another church. We are here to run the race for an eternal reward.

Finally, we need to be trained to run the race ahead of us. When you train, you are preparing for something. As a church, we have an obligation to prepare you for every good work by equipping you with the Word of God.

The vision that God has given us has been written out so that we as a body of believers can run with it! So what are we running to? What does this passionate pursuit of all God has for us look like, and why should I care?

Glad you asked.

WHAT IS OUR VISION MOVING FORWARD? IN OTHER WORDS, WHAT ARE WE RUNNING TOWARDS?

WE ARE GOING INTO THE WORLD AND MAKING DISCIPLES BY EQUIPPING, COMMISSIONING, AND SUPPORTING ORDINARY PEOPLE TO DO THE EXTRAORDINARY WORK OF THE GOSPEL.

GOING INTO ALL THE WORLD:

Acts 1:8 (NLT) But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

As the Disciples waited for this promise of Jesus to be fulfilled, they spent time in prayer. They waited for the Holy Spirit to come upon them so that they would be ready to go into the world.

The Holy Spirit enables us to be witnesses of Christ to this world. We are called to GO into the world. We tell others about the good news of Christ in our town, state, country, and the world.

As a church, we want to send you into this world on a mission. You won't go somewhere unless you are sent and we feel strongly about sending you into the world so that you can make a difference right where you are.

MAKING DISCIPLES:

Matthew 28:18–20 (NLT) Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. 19 Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. 20 Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to

the end of the age."

As devoted followers of Christ, our main mission is to help other people become devoted followers of Christ. We are disciples making disciples.

You probably saw that "START" is a three week video study that is designed to help you become a disciple of Christ - one who follows and acts like Jesus. We encourage anyone to watch these videos and do the work. Whether you have been here once or you have been here hundreds of times, it will be beneficial to you!

Then the LORD answered "Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, That he may run who reads it. Habakkuk 2:2

We see in this scripture that we are to also baptize disciples in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit! We will continue to offer opportunities for people to be baptized during our services throughout the year.

Remember the code (values) that we mentioned earlier? We want new disciples to know how to live for God and we want to help train you. We will be a church full of disciples who are making disciples.

EQUIPPING, COMMISSIONING, AND SUPPORTING ORDINARY PEOPLE:

Acts 6:1–7 (NLT) But as the believers rapidly multiplied, there were rumblings of discontent. The Greek-speaking believers complained about the Hebrew-speaking believers, saying that their widows were being discriminated against in the daily distribution of food. So the Twelve called a meeting of all the believers. They said, "We apostles should spend our time teaching the word of God, not running a food program. And so, brothers, select seven men who are well respected and are full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will give them this responsibility. Then we apostles can spend our time in prayer and teaching the word." Everyone liked this idea, and they chose the following: Stephen (a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit), Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas of Antioch. These seven were presented to the apostles, who prayed for them as they laid their hands on them. So God's message continued to spread. The number of believers greatly increased in Jerusalem, and many of the Jewish priests were converted, too.

We see in this passage that there was a problem in the early church that needed to be dealt with, and the twelve apostles did not have time to do everything that needed to be done.

Their solution to this problem? They selected seven people who were well respected and full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom. They were given responsibility.

They found these seven people, laid hands on them while praying, and commissioned them to do the work!

The result of this was that God's message continued to spread and the number of believers greatly increased!

WHY WE EXIST:

New Covenant exists to love God, love others, and impact our world.

WHY YOU BELONG:

To be a part of a diverse community of people transformed by the love of Jesus.

WHERE WE ARE GOING:

We are going into the world and making disciples by equipping, commissioning, and supporting ordinary people to do the extraordinary work of the Gospel.

Maybe now you see why YOU are so valuable to this church. There is a lot to be done, and the church staff can't do it all. We need you! As disciples who are ready to go, we want to do our part to equip, commission, and support you to do the work and run the race set before you.

As a church, we are called to equip disciples, and we do this through the word of God.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NLT) All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

God uses the Bible to prepare us for every good work! This is why we have made a weekly fill in note that goes along with the message from the past weekend. We also offer a Bible reading plan and access to the Bible on our New Covenant app. The Bible is important, and we encourage you to devour it.

We also want to commission you and send you out to run your race. There is too much work to be done, and so we all have a part to play! Whether you are a business owner, a stay at home mom or dad, employed at a factory, or working 9-5 or 6-6, God wants to use you to tell others of all that He has done in your life!

As a church, we want to pray over you and commission you to go into your environments and make a difference. You will have this opportunity by going through Start and engaging with the church.

We also want to support you in what you are doing right now. We

are here to love you, encourage you, and be a support in any way that we can!

TO DO THE EXTRAORDINARY WORK OF THE GOSPEL:

How do we do the extraordinary work of the Gospel?

God uses the Bible to prepare us for every good work!

It starts with living our lives as examples for others to see. We are the light of the world and light shines brightest in the darkness. Go into this world and be a messenger of the hope and love of Jesus Christ.

We financially support 24 mission organizations and missionaries on a monthly basis. We have 9 in Fort Dodge, 4 in the state of Iowa, 1 in Missouri, and 10 international missions and organizations. We are a part of the Gospel being spread all around the world. We are helping people plant churches, minister to orphans, support the physically disabled, heal the wounded, reach remote jungle villages, dig wells, disciple teenagers and young adults, and so many other amazing things. Our desire is to see this number continue to grow as we continue to send people out!

Let's do the work that Christ has set before us!

We.

Will.

Run.

11/28/21

ADVENT BEGINS

November 28 - December 24

11/29/21

MEALS ON WHEELS

November 29 - December 3

12/05/21

RETURN GIVING TREE PRESENTS

During both services

12/19/21

XTREME KIDS PRESENTATION

During both services

12/24/21

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

4pm and 6pm

12/26/21

ONE SERVICE ONLY

10am

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER



NCCCCFD.ORG

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515-955-6222 or mail@nccccfd.org