



# the SEED

...aiding the communication of the gospel  
through publishing the New Covenant story...

A Monthly Newsletter

March 2015

**Heritage PresWIC  
Women's Conference**  
March 14 8:30am-3pm



**Dinner & A Movie:  
Seven Deadly Words**  
March 20 @ 6 pm



**Baby Bottle  
Boomerang Ends**  
March 22



**Officer Nominations  
Due!**  
March 22



**Palm Sunday**  
March 29



On the  
Horizon...

For more information please visit [www.ncpchurch.com](http://www.ncpchurch.com) or call 302.644.6800

## Communion--"As often as you do this" "Live Long & Prosper"

By TE Robert Dekker

In 2015, At the beginning of April, instead of focusing on April Fools Day, Christians around the world will be focusing on the greatest event of all time... which took place in the week of Christ's Passion in AD 33. Our celebrations often culminate on "Easter," or as we prefer "Resurrection Sunday" (April 5th).

The sacrament of communion is one of the Biblical means of focusing attention on Christ's literal one-for-all death at Calvary. During the 4 Sundays leading up to the special services of Good Friday (hosted by Eastgate PCA in Longneck) and Resurrection Sunday (with special music), we will be serving the Lord's supper.

Some branches of Christianity utilize the 40 days leading up to the Passion by partying (such as Marti Gras) and then by choosing to suffer (by selecting something to give up during what they call "Lent.")

Instead of giving up something, we will be adding something to

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By TE Robert Dekker

Leonard Nimoy, popularly known as "Spock" from the original 1960's series STAR TREK, is credited with creating both his iconic "Vulcan" hand gesture (with the finger split) and with those piercing words of blessing: Live Long and Prosper. On Feb 27, his long life of 83 years ended. But, did he prosper?

For over 50 years, his character generated attention. But many have not taken notice of its parallel

with the gospel. Although it falls short theologically, it nevertheless attained a measure of fascination in the minds of so many.



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*COMMUNION* (continued from page 1) our worship...calling all to “remember” the love that Christ demonstrated for us while we were yet sinners. During the 4 Sundays, we will dine at his table, enjoying that unique meal of grace, including the bread which shows our identification/union with Christ’s body which experienced death, and including the sweet cup of blessing which we will drink-- which is in stark contrast to the bitter cup of sorrow that He alone could swallow.

May the delight of this repetition, more “often” than usual, be used by God to draw us nearer.... and to again say “THANK YOU”

*Your Blood, has washed away my sin,  
Jesus thank You  
The Father's wrath completely satisfied,  
Jesus Thank you  
Once your enemy, now seated at your table,  
Jesus "Thank, YOU!"*

## When our Story includes Ordination

One of the blessings of an officer election is the ordination service that follows. What a joy to see God raising up leaders to serve in His church; Mike Purnell & Morris Webster were ordained as PCA Ruling Elders on 2/15; Steve Abdalla was ordained as a PCA Deacon on 3/1. Making vows in God’s presence is serious business for the individual, but is in the laying on of the hands of the “presbyters” (which is the Greek term expressing those with a mature faith or even more simply translated as “elders) is when the corporate body of Christ is engaged.

The concept of the “laying on of hands” was generated within the scriptures. The laying on of hands is a symbolic act that sets individuals apart and signifies the imparting of spiritual blessings, authority, and/or power.

In the Old Testament, a blessing was often conferred in this way. For example, Jacob passed on blessings from God by laying his hands on Ephraim and Manasseh (Genesis 48:13-20).

In the New Testament, a newly baptized person had hands laid on him for the receiving of the Holy Spirit. Notice in Acts 8:17-18 that after God's ministers had baptized repentant converts, "they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit... [T]hrough the laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Spirit was given..." Also see Acts 19:5-6 and II Timothy 1:6.

The laying on of hands also accompanies an elder's prayer for the afflicted (Acts 9:17) and for ordination. An example is found in Acts 6. Here, seven men became deacons when the apostles prayed and "laid hands on them" (verse 6).

The laying on of hands, then, serves to show that God works through His ministers. This ceremony is mentioned as one of the basic doctrines of His church in Hebrews 6:2.

May God bless the ordinations of Mike, Morris, and Steve.

FYI: Nominations for the Class of 2015 for both elders and deacons will be open until 3/22. It would be great to have additional ordinations this summer and Lord-willing, one of them will be for a Teaching Elder!

## Wonderfully Made

*WE ARE WONDERFULLY MADE (Ps. 139:14)*  
.....*Save the Date for the AIG weekend conference hosted by NCPC on Saturday, May 2 (2-8:30) and Sunday, May 3 (9-12).* this special conference will feature a guest speaker from Answers in Genesis who will help us walk through the Uniqueness of Man! You don't want to miss it!

## Winter VBS

*By Director Mike Yurik*

Winter VBS was a huge success! We had 14 kids, 4 youth volunteers, and 15 adult volunteers participate this year. It was awesome to see the fun the kids had reliving the memories from the summer and making

brings me the most joy is seeing the kids get excited about learning about God and memorizing His word. One question I was asked by a space cadet after the first day was, "What happens next in the story?" He genuinely wanted to know what happens next in the salvation plan story I was sharing with the kids that week. It was a blessing in my life to see kids have fun in this church and have fun with the people who call it their home. I hope to



*PROSPER (continued from page 1)* Spock was from another world. He is introduced to us as being both man and alien. He demonstrates a wisdom that exceeds our human capacity; in fact Captain Kirk once declared that he would be the equivalent of a good computer.

Spock's struggle was with his humanity; his mother was an earthling who had married a leader from the great planet. He was not satisfied with the Vulcan logic which was heartless and statistical; in one episode, you can see him choosing to suffer with the humans (to join their Star Fleet) rather than to stay in their hallowed, emotionless culture.

So he comes to earth. He in effect comes to save them. He brings with him strength of character, a "sinless" resume, and a willingness to engage.

In the movie Star Trek II, you see it all come together. Within its tight revenge plot and its old special effects, which surprisingly hold up today, you see the wonder of this alien choosing to save others by sacrificing himself. He declares that the needs of the many outweigh the needs of the few, or even of the one (himself). In that scene, his solution to the dilemma was to step into the chamber of radiation to fix what was broken. Only he had the superhuman strength to even be able to enter the chamber. But, it is there that he is dying because of that immense amount of radiation poured out upon him.

And, like Jesus on the cross, he speaks softly to his colleague: "Do not grieve—I have and always will be your friend." And then with his last breath, "live long and prosper". But this is not the end. He is jettisoned in a coffin-like torpedo into the "Genesis Project" where he resurrected, to live again in the next movie.

Although he is no Jesus, the Spock character gives our culture a modern echo of what was needed over 2000 years ago when the real savior came. He was 100% God and 100% man. His sacrifice was not to save us from radiation, but from God's wrath upon our sin. But, like Spock, he had to show us the way...because we could not save ourselves.

As Leonard Nimoy's life ended, it begs the question that most are subconsciously asking: Isn't there more than just this wish for a "long" and "prosperous" life?

Jesus provides the answer: Come unto me...believe in me....and I will give you everlasting life! John 14:6: "I am the life!"

## An Interview With Sue New

Do you have questions about the upcoming PresWIC Conference? Curious about what PresWIC even is? Then read on!

I am sure by now you have heard our pastor talk about "Going to Presbytery."

Those are quarterly meetings where pastors and elders gather to pray for each church, conduct church business, ordain pastors and worship together. PCA churches are known as "Connectional" churches. That means we do not stand alone. We have like minded and like-hearted brothers and sisters around the country and around our local area. Our denomination has divided each region of the country into smaller sub-groups called Presbyteries. New Covenant is a member of the Heritage Presbytery. It consists of 18 churches and church plants in the DelMarVa region.

So many women have asked what this PresWIC group is all about that we secured an interview with Sue New, the current President of PresWIC for the Heritage Presbytery.

What is PresWic, and how does a woman become a member? PresWIC is the name for the Women in the Church of the Presbytery. Therefore, it includes every woman who is part of a church in the Heritage Presbytery. If you are a woman reading this, that means YOU! We can benefit from getting to know women from other churches to encourage, to pray, to learn from each other and to bear one another's burdens.

Do you have meetings like the men's presbytery group? There is a national



PresWIC conference in Atlanta every five years. It just took place last week. It was a wonderful chance to get to know the women who serve in other churches.

There we met with national leaders and learned about the vision our denomination has for ministry for the future. And then of course we have an annual meeting just for our presbytery. This year we are holding it at New Covenant in Lewes, DE. I encourage every woman who is a part of any of the 18 churches in our presbytery to be there.

How does the conference equip women? You know, the theme for the conference beautifully mirrors the overall purpose for PresWIC. Reaching out to each other in community and loving one another as we go through life's struggles is exactly what we aim to do. Ellen Dykas will be talking about building relationships. We hope to go deeper than ever before. When we all gather together, those from newer churches can see how an established ministry works, and those from older churches can get excited about new things they see happening in other churches. Knowing we have sisters in ministry around the area builds us all into a stronger knit community.

So if you are the local president of our group, is there someone that coordinates women's ministry on a higher level? Oh yes! For the past eight years Jan Derby has been on the national PCA board. Many of you probably have met her and she will be at the conference. She is stepping down this year and our new North East Region Representative will be installed. **Jane Anne Wilson** will be our new regional representative from the PCA. She is a member of Cornerstone PCA in Landenberg, PA. Jan will be introducing her and

passing on the baton at the New Covenant Conference in March. Jane Anne's role will be the same - to communicate with national leaders, support local leaders, and speak at women's meetings around the presbytery.



How could a woman from a local church be more involved? At the conference you will see a short video about how the local women connect to the larger group. Each year the PresWIC group is assigned a committee in the PCA to pray for, to encourage, and to receive a love gift. This year's assignment is the Reformed University Fellowship. Money we send will help train female staff members to share the gospel and lead discipleship groups on college campuses. We are also tasked with praying for and communicating with the Mission to North America missionaries. Even the simple act of sending a note of encouragement to a missionary connects and strengthens us. Any woman anywhere can pray for the needs of missionary wives and pastor's wives throughout our presbytery.

Do you have any final thoughts to share with the women of New Covenant? YES! Come to the conference! If you have come to conferences before you know how they bind us together as Presbyterian women. And if you have never been to one, you need to come! We are right in your back yard! Women from the farther reaches of the presbytery will drive for hours to be here and you do not want to be left out! Come see for yourself what a blessing it is to be part of a connectional church. I hope to see you there!