



New Covenant Church
KNOW · HEAR · RESPOND

Step 1 – “NCC: About Us”

New Covenant Church “About Us”

Welcome to the New Covenant Church “About Us.” This time is designed to help you become more familiar with NCC’s history, virtues and vision. The purpose is that you might better know who we are and how to become more involved in relationships, service and ministries.

It is our desire that upon completing this orientation you will go to the Lord in earnest prayer and seek His will for your involvement in NCC. We want everyone to find their place in the Body of Christ and live the life God intends.

PURPOSE

Our purpose is to Glorify God by inviting all People to KNOW, HEAR and RESPOND to Jesus Christ through relationship. And this is lived out in relationship, with Christ and our brothers and sisters in Christ.

- **KNOW** -- No matter who you are or where you are, there is nothing more important than knowing Jesus Christ and the life He makes available to us. To know the Lord Jesus is more than a mental acquaintance with the historical figure who lived 2000 years ago. When we use the word “know” we mean to experience Him as a real, living Person; the Risen Lord Jesus!
- **HEAR** -- We believe all who know Him can hear His voice, we desire all to hear him He said, “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.” (John 10:27) Paul said, “Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.” (Rom. 10:17).
- **RESPOND** – You know Him more fully when you become His follower and a doer of His Word. No matter the season of your life, you will benefit, grow and become what Christ desires by knowing, hearing and responding. (John 14:15) “If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.”

VIRTUES

- **PRESENCE / LORDSHIP:** Our reason for gathering, for ministering, is to prepare a place for His Presence. We’ve set our heart to do what He says, to go where He leads, to submit our way to His.
- **FREEDOM:** “Where the spirit of the Lord is there is freedom.” Not just freedom *from* but freedom *to be* all Jesus wants, deserves and leads us to become. Free to worship, work, submit and serve.
- **UNITY:** We believe that there is One Head – Jesus Christ and as we hear and respond, we will be in unity of the Spirit (Eph 4:1) The Elders govern by unity.

- **RELATIONSHIP:** God works through relationship. We are to love God and love one another. We believe the best way to grow in Christ is through relationship. We also believe the best ministry takes place through relationship.
- **SERVANT LEADERSHIP:** The best way to lead is to serve God first, then one another, then our world. We seek to follow Jesus’ example by serving selflessly just as He served selflessly.
- **GENEROSITY:** “For God so loved He gave...” The blessed life is a generous life. Generous with our time, our love, our serving, our resources.

NCC HISTORY

PAST

New Covenant Church was born in a prayer meeting October of 1986, in the home of Clifford and Patsy Wooten. There was a group of people who had gathered for some time because of a hunger for the Lord. They wanted all God had for them and were seeking ways to follow Him into the fullness of His promises. In prayer and fellowship, they began to experience God in new and joy-filled ways. They were introduced to new expressions of worship and the Bible had a “newness” as they studied together. A new freedom was found and began to be attractive to others. They just desired to “follow” Christ; and do what He directed.

Galatians 5:1 became their theme: *“It was for freedom that Christ set us free; therefore keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery.”* (NASV).

Like most “new” congregations, NCC was seeking to find our identity. One person put it: “When we started NCC, we thought we had finally found ‘it.’ Then we discovered we all had a different idea of ‘it.’”

At first, the congregation was small enough that we functioned with conversation, prayer, and agreement. During this time, there was an interim Pastor, a volunteer associate pastor, a worship leader and the congregation. We had Sunday School, Worship, and Home Groups (3 Adult / 1 Youth). After prayer and conversation, the congregation asked 7 men to serve in finding a full-time pastor. The congregation called Darrell Feemster as the first Senior pastor – September 1, 1987.

NCC was Biblically based and Kingdom minded from the beginning. We valued freedom in worship and ministry. We sought to give away what we had found. We focused on helping burned out, wounded, hurting and spiritually hungry folks through loving relationships. We found the more we prayed, loved and helped others, the more we grew. We outgrew homes, so we found a storefront, remodeled it, moved in and quickly outgrew it. We moved to a former Youth Center, remodeled it, and soon began to outgrow it. We were content to be a church in rented facilities, but we discovered that in our community, you were not considered a “church” until you had your own building.

Pastor Feemster heard: “When you learn to be the church, God will build you a building.”

The church focused on learning to be His body rather than a building-centered congregation. Soon it became apparent that no building was available for rent that would accommodate our size on a regular basis.

In 1990, God led us to property, and we started what was to become our original building. We paid for construction as money was available. Once we started, we never had to stop because of lack of donations. We moved into the partially finished building in 1993 and it was completed debt free in 1995.

Being in a transitional community, we found the congregation always changing. A prophetic word was given saying that people would be coming from the area and what we saw in the natural (military training center) would happen in the spiritual. We began to see the fulfillment of that as people from the surrounding area began to connect and attend.

In 1995, the Holy Spirit moved upon us in a different way. People were experiencing God in a way that was unusual to our tradition. The talk of the town was the “strange” thing that was happening at New Covenant. For some, it was an attraction, while for others it was offensive. Throughout, we sought to stay true to our interpretation of the Word of God and love for our community. We continued to grow even though some left. Our focus remained on Jesus Christ and His leading through the Holy Spirit.

All through the years, we listened to what we believed the Holy Spirit was saying to the leadership and trusted Him to guide and provide for us as we responded. In 1996, NCC paid to send four local pastors to attend a Pastor’s retreat in Florida. These pastors had previously been meeting weekly with NCC Senior Pastor. In 1997, these pastors were instrumental in making a declaration over the City of Lampasas as belonging to the Lord Jesus Christ. That same year, an Intercession Ministry was started that organized personal intercessors for every pastor, political officer, judge, teacher and leader in our community.

Pastor Feemster served New Covenant as Senior Pastor until September 2018, when Pastor Chris Valdez became the Senior Pastor and Pastor Feemster transitioned to Teaching Pastor.

PRESENT

The transition of Senior Pastor from Pastor Darrell to Pastor Chris in 2018 went very smooth. Many churches struggle with a transition from one senior pastor to another. Especially when the one leaving has been there for so long...even more so when they were the founding pastor. We have not experienced that struggle.

The favor of the Lord has been upon this transition. New ministry has been established, we are debt free again and now building a Generations building that will be used for our children, youth and Heritage Daycare, as well as areas that we believe God will show us.

Today, we continue to walk in the same foundational truths that we started with in 1986. We have come to describe “it” a little better.

FUTURE

We believe that every person who walks with NCC is an integral part of what God wants to do through this body. We want participants not just attendees.

We want to be a people who are:

- **Dynamically in Love with Jesus Christ and One Another** as described in Matthew 22:36-37 (NKJV) and 1 Peter 4:7-11 (NKJV)]
- **Demonstrating the Life of Jesus by the Fruit and Gifts of the Holy Spirit** as illustrated in Galatians 2:20 (NKJV) and Galatians 5:22-25 (NKJV)]
- **Intentionally Making, Equipping and Releasing Disciples** as modeled in [Matthew 28:19-20 (NKJV) and Ephesians 4:11-14 (NKJV)]
- **Effectively Influencing this World for the Kingdom of God** by our Love, Service, Wisdom and Walk as patterned in [Matthew 5:13-16 (NKJV) and Philippians 2:14-16 (NKJV)]

Next Steps

The teaching resources listed below are offered as a means to assist you in growing in Christ Jesus, to better understand NCC and to prepare you for living out your ministry in the Body of Christ.

Step 2 – “Get Connected” – This class is a basic introduction to the ministry of NCC and will help you understand what it means to become a covenant member and the opportunities to connect and serve with others at NCC.

Step 3 – “Discovering your Design” - Discover your unique personality, gifts, and purpose in life. See how God combines them in ministry. This class can help you find and define your place in the Kingdom of God.

Step 4 – “One Body, One Team” – Find your place on and in One Team. Come learn about the different areas of ministry and how you can join the team at NCC. You can complete the ministry specific training and start fulfilling your calling and ministry.

A Gift for You

Whether you're a new believer or already a member, learn more about what it means to be a “follower of Jesus” by reading your gift copy of ***Ten Steps Toward Christ*** and consider joining the corresponding Life Group. It explains foundational Christian beliefs for a successful Christian walk. There is an accompanying on-line video series that corresponds with the chapters in this book for home or group study use.