

COVENANT *News*

A monthly publication of Covenant Presbyterian Church

Charlotte, North Carolina



2019

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Message from Bob



Dear friends,

As the calendar turns on another year, we look back with gratitude and forward with tremendous anticipation.

Ten months ago, this congregation launched an ambitious campaign to provide affordable housing and child care to our city. Ten months from now, we expect our campus to be overflowing with children and our housing complex to be just a few months away from opening 185 new and much needed apartments.

Your faith and generosity, God's presence and leading, as well as a lot of hard work by a broad and talented team are bearing tremendous fruit. Thank you.

We have other exciting plans for 2019, most of which seek to ground our core endeavors in excellence. First, we'll offer two particularly challenging sermon series in the first quarter. In late January, we'll begin a four-week series entitled *The Four Sides of Forgiveness*, a topic with endless personal application and challenge.

Then, for Lent, we will have perhaps the most unique series I've ever tried. We will engage other faith leaders -- including Jewish, Muslim, atheist/agnostic and, we hope, Buddhist -- in far-ranging exchanges on the topic of salvation.

The sermons will be offered jointly and resemble a thoughtful conversation in which commonality as well as particularity will be respectfully affirmed. We hope it will bring understanding, friendship and appreciation.

Of course there are many other exciting endeavors happening across this dynamic congregation. Read this newsletter carefully as a way of appreciating many of them.

With gratitude for you all,

Bob

Grady Moseley joins staff as interim associate minister

The Rev. Grady Moseley has joined the Covenant staff as Interim Minister for Congregational Life/Pastoral Care.

Grady is well known to the congregation (along with his wife, Kim), having served as Parish Associate for five years. He graduated from Whitworth College in Spokane, WA, with degrees in history and sociology.

A search committee will soon form to fill the position on a permanent basis.



Answering God's call to ministry, Grady earned Master's degrees from Union Presbyterian Seminary-Richmond (Christian Education, Divinity) and the New College at University of Edinburgh in Scotland (Theology in Church History).

Grady has served churches in Fairmont, WV, New Bern and Charlotte. He is an avid hiker, trail biker, woodworker and (novice) fly fisherman.

In his own words, "As I continue to practice pastoral leadership enthusiastically and relationally, God willing, I understand my calling is to be an *anamchara* (a Celtic word for "soul friend") and to sit with all those who have questions, helping answer some of the questions.

"But mostly just being a companion...and never letting the questions, or the answers, get in the way of friendship."

Session Digest

Highlights from recent Session meetings

- Called a congregational meeting for Sunday, Jan. 27 at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary to present the annual budget, vote on any proposed changes in terms of call and elect members of the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee.
- Learned about a NEXT Church Elder Symposium at Covenant on Saturday, Jan. 26 from 9 a.m. to noon featuring speaker Becca Messman, a writer.
- Endorsed plans for single, unified worship services at 10 a.m. on Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day in 2019. The Chapel service will pause for summer from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Affordable housing breaks ground on Freedom

A milestone in our campaign *For a Whole Community*

After a weekend of snow and ice, the sun shone and uptown sparkled against a clear blue sky, providing a perfect background for an exciting milestone for the affordable housing project Covenant is supporting through our capital campaign *For a Whole Community*.

On Tuesday, Dec. 11, Charlotte Mecklenburg Housing Partnership (CMHP) held a groundbreaking ceremony for the new, 185-unit apartment complex on Freedom Drive. The group also unveiled the name for the community: The Mezzanine on Freedom.

When it opens, this apartment complex will serve residents at all income levels. Seventy percent of the units will be reserved for those who earn less than the Area Median Income (AMI), helping chip away at Charlotte's critical need for affordable housing, especially for those at the lowest income levels.

The groundbreaking ceremony brought together representatives of all the partners who have made this project possible, including Charlotte Mecklenburg Housing Partnership, which is responsible for the project as a whole; the City of Charlotte, which contributed bond money; Marsh Properties and the Movement

Foundation, both of which donated land; and Covenant, which is contributing \$2 million in financing.

Senior Minister Bob Henderson delivered the invocation, during which he prayed that on these grounds, "children will laugh, elderly will smile, families will love and friendships will form."

Covenant member Joe Taylor, who leads the affordable housing project implementation team, spoke on behalf of the church. He thanked CMHP for their commitment to providing not just shelter, but also stability, hope and a path forward for residents.

He concluded his remarks saying, "We look forward to seeing the many ways God will work through this wonderful new community, particularly in the lives of those who will be touched by and benefit from it."

After remarks from other local leaders and project representatives, the speakers gathered behind ceremonial shovels and broke ground to enthusiastic applause. Construction is expected to be complete by early 2020 and residents will move into their new homes soon after.

Questions about our plans? Contact CovenantCapitalCampaign@gmail.com.



Why is there a puzzle outside the Sanctuary?

You may have noticed what looks like a large, black, framed geometric puzzle in the narthex. Actually, it's not a puzzle, but rather a slowly forming mosaic that represents the percentage pledges received for our capital campaign *For a Whole Community*. As more pledges are received, pieces will be filled in and the final image will be revealed.

The mosaic, created by Picture Mosaics, comprises thousands of images of Covenant members in action. Upon completion, the mosaic will stand as a piece of art in the new hospitality space.

Visitors to Covenant will be able to see faces of those whose vision and faith helped construct affordable housing, care for children and create a more welcoming campus.



Campaign Contributions Update

(as of Dec. 21)

Total Campaign Giving: \$5,586,407

43.3 percent toward our goal

Give online at CovenantPresby.org/give

Covenant mission trips reflect God's remarkable ways

Festival raises vital funds for our partners and participants

Save the date: Sunday, Feb. 24
9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Rec Wing

Covenant mission trips provide transformational experiences of faith as we engage with people and places in challenged parts of the world.

Proceeds from the Mission Festival keep our trips affordable for youth and adults while also supporting our local and international partners.

Below, Cathy and Tim Kendrick recall a remarkable mission trip experience in Mexico.

Our primary goal for the week was to put a floor and roof on a Sunday School class. We also spent a little extra time each day working on a multi-purpose play court.

On our last day, we were exhausted. But we were committed to finishing the court, even if it meant a quick turnaround. That decision, while tiring, was remarkably rewarding.



MISSION REMARKABLE

At day's end, we went back to our houses to clean up and eat dinner. By the time we made it back to the church, the entire court was filled with church members, waiting for us to begin a celebration.

There is nothing like seeing the results of our week's work being put to use so quickly, and knowing that the children now have a better place to play.

Auction Items Needed

The Mission Festival includes live and silent auctions. We need donations for both. Please consider contributing:

- **Experiences or services:** Host a dinner, cater a party, share your professional talents with a group, etc.
- **Tickets:** Provide tickets to games, events or concerts.
- **Vacations:** Donate time at a beach or mountain home or other vacation experience.
- **Art:** Share a special piece in any medium.
- **Household items:** Give nice pieces (treasures, not jumbles!) that need a good home.

Please email Lucy.Crain@covenantpresby.org by Jan. 31 to register items for donation or learn more.

Care and Support

Contact Susan Ferone, Covenant's care coordinator, at ferone@covenantpresby.org or call her at 704-804-7585 to get connected with care.

Grief and Healing - Taking the Journey Together

Beginning Wednesday, Jan. 16 at 6:30 p.m. in the Parlor



A discussion and support group invites adults who are experiencing loss from the death of a spouse, parent, sibling or friend.

Together, we will work through the pain of loss and navigate a new path.

Our facilitators are Judith Allen, LPC, who has 24 years of experience in grief counseling, and Susan Ferone, LCSW.

You and Your Emerging Adult: Finding Common Ground in a Changing World

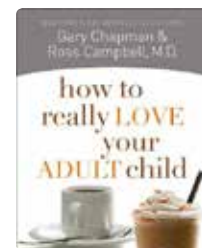
Begins Sunday, Jan. 13 at 7 p.m. at home of Fielding and Rusty Williams

Covenant's College Council invites you to a Sunday night series to discuss your changing relationship with your emerging adult. Parents will explore our new roles in the lives of our children.

Being a Caregiver to a Loved One

Second Thursdays every month at 11 a.m. in the Parlor

Do you provide care for a spouse or loved one? Talk with peers about shared challenges in this supportive space.



How to connect with mission in 2019

Be part of Habitat build, Kinship Project, Reynosa trip

The missions team plans a busy new year. To get connected, contact Lucy.Crain@covenantpresby.org or 704-804-7574.



*Lucy Crain
Director of
Mission and
Outreach*

Church-wide Habitat build Coming this spring

Our congregation was one of seven founding churches of Habitat Charlotte 35 years ago. This spring, we will do a full house build lasting 13 days. All are welcome to swing hammers, provide lunch or fill other volunteer roles. To get connected, contact Julia. Watkins@covenantpresby.org.



*Julia Watkins
Pastoral Resident*

The Kinship Project With Room in the Inn

Learn about how God calls us to build relationships with those who are marginalized. Develop deeper friendships within the church community, too.

We will serve together each Tuesday night in March and also take part in a book study on radical kinship co-facilitated by Kim Moseley, licensed counselor.

A few spots left on Reynosa trip Team will travel March 10-17

Spend a week near the U.S.-Mexico border, laying blocks for a home alongside our partners at Faith Ministry. LeAnne Stipp and Scott Roehrig will lead our construction and medical teams.

An informational coffee is Sunday, Jan. 5 at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall Library. Application deadline is Jan. 9. Payment plans and scholarships are available.

Open Table in February Seek the Welfare of the City

Hear from nonprofit leaders about how prophetic voices from the Old Testament and the world today have guided their work in our community. A Wednesday night series welcomes you at 6:30 p.m. in February.

Feb. 6 – Helms and Greg Jarrell of QC Family Tree

Feb. 13 – Dale Mullennix of Urban Ministry Center

Feb. 20 – Jimmy McQuilkin of Urban Promise

Feb. 27 – Laura Belcher of Habitat Charlotte

Young Adults Upcoming Events

Join us at any time. Get connected: Ian.Clark@covenantpresby.org

Engaged and Newlywed Couples

A small group seeks to help you build relationships with those in a similar place. We'll work together to strengthen our foundation of faith and prepare for a bright, loving, and enduring life of love. Interested? Let Ian know!

Serve at Urban Ministry Center

Saturday, Jan. 26, 10:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Help serve lunch to as many as 300 guests at the center near uptown.

First Sunday Brunch

Sunday, Jan. 6 at 12:30 p.m. at Bad Daddy's on East Boulevard
Join us for an unprogrammed time of fellowship – and some great food!

Winter Retreat

Friday to Sunday, Jan. 18-20
We'll head to western NC for friendship and fun in the snow.



Open Table @ Covenant

Wednesday nights in January

Dinner in Fellowship Hall 5 to 6:30 p.m. ■ Programs for all ages at 6:30 p.m. ■ Child care available



Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m., Jan. 16, 23 and 30 Fellowship Hall 205

Guest speakers will show us strategies for nonviolence in public places and spaces, personal relationships and civic life.

Session One, Jan. 16, The Power of Language to Pave a Way for Peace: Brandon Risher lost his grandmother, Ethel Lance, in the Charleston church shooting. Brandon uses the unique confluence of his grief and pain -- along with his expertise as a psychologist -- to show that lifting our voices can spur personal and social change.

Session Two, Jan. 23, Seeking Reasonable Gun Reform: James Atwood, an avid hunter and Presbyterian minister, joined the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence after a member of his congregation was shot and killed in a robbery. Atwood is now a nationally recognized speaker on theology and gun rights.

Session Three, Jan. 30, Cultivating a Culture of Healthy Relationships: Karen Parker, CEO of Safe Alliance; Audra Toussaint, a domestic violence survivor; and Dave Pitser, Covenant member and chair of Safe Alliance's Men for Change, invite us to join them in working toward a safer Charlotte for all.



Trivia, Travel, Global Food & Fellowship

Open Table Kickoff, Wednesday, Jan. 9 at 6:30 p.m. Come play trivia, hear stories of life-changing mission experiences and taste food from regions of the world. Our own Will Gaston emcees a family-friendly night of Open Table. How is God calling you to serve in 2019? Start here!

TLC Upcoming Event



*Travel, Learn, Connect – Covenant's active adults group enjoys learning and travel (and good food).
RSVP: Mary.Mattiacci@covenantpresby.org*

Hear from a road trip expert

Tamela Rich, author and adventurer

Tamela Rich will teach us what it means to "pack light, travel slow and connect deep" when it comes to travel. Tamela will also share advice on local and regional trips to learn about history, culture and roadside kitsch.

Wednesday, Jan. 23. Join us in Room 201 of the Ed Wing at 10:30 a.m. for refreshments and 11 a.m. for the talk. No reservation needed.



Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. beginning Jan. 16

Reach your health goals in 2019

Find out how a stronger mind-body-spirit connection can boost your well-being and joy. This seven-week series is presented by the Health and Wellness Committee and Rec Wing. Here are the first three sessions:



Jan. 16: Kevin Harper (right), director of the Rec Wing, will spotlight ways to get healthy at Covenant.

Jan. 23: Alice Watson, a personal trainer, will share new ways to approach good nutrition.

Jan 30: Karen Davidson will lead a session on interval training and Total Body Fitness. Find out how to use a mixture of muscle toning and cardio work.

Ask, learn, grow: Places to start in a new year

Small groups launch new studies, welcome newcomers

Small Group Bible Studies kick off the week of Jan. 7. Adult Sunday School classes begin new studies Sunday, Jan. 13.

Uptown Bible Studies

Tuesdays or Thursdays, noon to 1 p.m.

Foundation for the Carolinas. Led by Jessica Patchett, Ben Mallicote and Ian Clark. Beginning Jan. 8, join a four-week series on New Year's Resolution Helps from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. We'll explore biblical insights on health, money, worry and prayer.

Southpark Bible Study

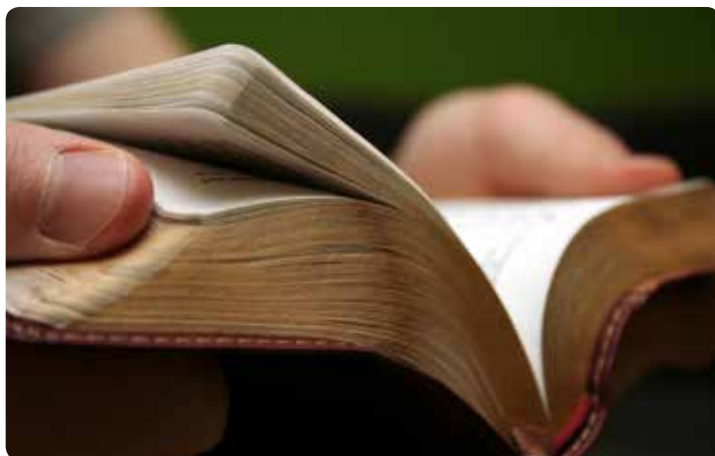
Thursdays, noon to 1 p.m.

Union Presbyterian Seminary. Led by Jerry Jernigan and Robin Goodson. Join us for an eight-week series on The Parables for Today. We'll explore some of Jesus' short stories and their power to shape our lives of faith.

January Book Club

Jan. 24 at 7 p.m. at home of Debbie Enna

Children of the Stone: The Power of Music in a Hard Land by Sandy Tolan. Join Debbie, Jacqueline McAbee and Loretta Brown to discuss the story of a child from a Palestinian refugee camp who confronts an occupying army, gets an education, masters an instrument and dreams of something bigger than himself: a school to transform lives through music.



Winter Convocation

The Bible, Violence and God's Concern for the Vulnerable

Dr. Brennan Breed on Sunday, Jan. 6

Dr. Breed will speak at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. He will also join Jessica Patchett for a dialogical sermon in 11 a.m. Fellowship Hall worship.

Dr. Breed is Assistant Professor of Old Testament at Columbia Theological Seminary. His research focuses on how our understanding of the Bible compares to the historical contexts in which it was written.



Deep Dive Questions

A series led by rotating speakers explores questions submitted by people in our congregation. Discussions are at 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall 203. Afterward, we head to Dilworth Neighborhood Grille for more conversation. All are welcome!

How to make, keep faith-based resolutions Sunday, Jan. 6

In 2019, you might be considering life changes to enrich your spiritual journey. But what can you do? And once you make a faith-based resolution, how can you stick to it?

Join Covenant's senior pastor, Bob Henderson, as we explore this topic together, and make this event your starting point!

Why do bad things happen to good people? Sunday, Feb. 10

It's a question as old as time - and one which you have, no doubt, wondered yourself. How does our faith answer this question? Why do we experience so much hardship? Why do good, faithful people experience various forms of suffering?

Presbyterians and predestination Sunday, March 3

Many people know that predestination (the idea that God chooses who will be saved in advance) is part of the historic theological identity of Presbyterianism (and the wider Reformed tradition). Yet, it often feels at odds with an image of God who is graceful, forgiving and loving. So, what's the deal?

Join Covenant pastors Jessica Patchett and Ian Clark to untangle this thorny theological question and offer contemporary ways of faithfully considering it.



Healthy in 2019

Hoping to step up your workouts? Rec Wing has new fitness equipment

For full class schedules, visit covenantpresby.org/connect/recreation-ministry.

Memberships: Gain access to the improved weight and cardio room, track, lockers, showers and basketball court.

Personal Training: Our certified trainers offer one-on-one, buddy and small group personal training. Fees vary.

Group Exercise Classes: We offer Yoga, Functional Fitness, Boot Camp, Running Group, Stroller Strides, Body Back and Total Body Training. Class types, days, times and price packages vary. First class free!

Functional Fitness for Adults 60+: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays: 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2 p.m. Exercise under the guidance of a licensed physical therapist. First class free!

Total Body Training: Tuesdays and Thursdays 9-10 a.m.

Work out your entire body utilizing weights, bars, bands, balls, your body and the environment. First class free, then only \$8 drop-in fee.

Yoga: Classes throughout the week. Times and rates vary.

Stroller Strides: A total fitness program that parents can do with babies. It includes power walking and intervals of strength and body toning exercises using exercise tubing, the stroller and the environment. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10:45 to 11:45 a.m.



Nurse's Note

Contact me at Mary.mattiacci@covenantpresby.org.

Dear Ones,

I hope each of you is having a happy new year so far! As you are contemplating your resolutions, let's look at a few which you can actually stick to for sure.



Mary Mattiacci
Parish Nurse

1. Make and keep an appointment with your primary care physician. I'm surprised by how many folks don't have a relationship with a primary doctor. A trip to urgent care is just not as helpful as talking to someone who follows your health year after year. If you need help finding one, come by to see me.
2. Get at least seven hours of sleep a night. I mean it. Seven to nine hours are recommended. Skimping on sleep may seem noble, but it increases anxiety and depression, slows motor function and can cause cognitive impairment over time. Your body needs rest.
3. Wear sunscreen every time you go outside. Even in the winter, be in the habit of putting sunscreen on your face and hands. Don't forget the top of your head if your hair does not cover your scalp.
4. Come to the Health and Wellness Open Table series on Wednesday evenings starting on Jan. 16 and learn more about what's offered in Covenant's own Recreation Wing.

I hope 2019 will bring you peace and joy.

Take care!

Mary

Sisters in Spirit Breakfasts

Women of Covenant are invited every month for breakfast and an inspiring faith story. Bring a friend!

When: Tuesday, Jan. 8 at 7 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

Sally Brewster, owner of Park Road Books, will offer book suggestions for winter reading.

Since 1977, Park Road Books has been the cornerstone of independent bookstores in Charlotte.



RSVP to reservations@covenantpresby.org to have breakfast.

Covenant Kids Education



Third graders received Bibles in November. This tradition is made possible through a gift from Mrs. Velda Gallegra in memory of her mother, Bertha Duggar, a long-time Covenant member and Sunday School teacher. Velda traveled from her home in Nevada to join us.

Ready, Set, Worship II (Baptism) for 2nd graders and parents

For two Sundays, Jan. 13 and 20, 2nd graders and parents will meet in EW203 during Sunday School, then walk to the Chapel for a lesson with one of our pastors. No RSVP needed. On Jan. 27 at both 11 a.m. services, we will provide an opportunity for any child or adult to receive baptism.

5th Grade Faith & Sexuality Workshop

Saturday, Jan. 26 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. "He, She, We and God" is a faith based curriculum to provide tweens with basic information about human sexuality.

Students must attend the whole workshop and at least one parent must attend the afternoon session. Please RSVP by Jan. 15.

Room in the Inn service opportunity

Elementary-age families (and others) will help with Room in the Inn at Covenant on Tuesday, Jan. 8 and Tuesday, Jan. 22. We will serve up to 14 guests each time, plus volunteers. Guests will arrive at 6 p.m. and dinner will be served at about 6:20 p.m. Contact Julia.Watkins@covenantpresby.org for details.

Open Table Wednesday nights

Young Scholars is a beginner Bible study for grades 1-5 led by Anne Lowrance and Mollie Lee.

Children learn to navigate and read the Bible through activities such as sword drills and scavenger hunts. Drop off and pick up in the Rec Wing kitchen area, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Music & Movement: Ages 4-5 enjoy a high-energy Bible story with music. Drop off in Rec Wing kitchen area, pick up in Nursery, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Children's choirs rehearse Wednesdays, too

Join directors Rob Dicks and Heather Potter for rehearsals from 5:45 to 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays, including Angelus Choir (grades K-2) and Choristers Choir (grades 3-5). Contact Heather.Potter@covenantpresby.org for details.

Preschool Open Houses

Prospective parents are invited Jan. 24 at 10 a.m. or 7 p.m. in the art studio on the Preschool floor.

Director Kathie Grabert will lead an info session and tour. Schedule a tour by calling 704-333-8658. Registration is Jan. 28-Feb. 8.

Winter Sunday Mornings

Early Childhood First Floor, EW

Child Care 8:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
Crib Nursery (infants-walkers)
Toddler Nursery (walkers to 2 years)

9:30-10:30 a.m. Sunday School
(2 years - Kindergarten)
10:30-11 a.m. Play Time
11-11:30 a.m. Music & Bible Story
11:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Snack & Playground or Gym

Elementary Education

Grades 1-5, Second Floor, EW

9:30-9:45 a.m. Small Groups
9:45-10:10 a.m. Large Group
10:10-10:30 a.m. Small Groups
11 a.m. - 12 p.m. Elementary kids attend worship or childcare

Youth (Grades 6-12)

Education Wing, 9:30 a.m.

Base/6th & 7th Grades EW318
Quest/8th Grade EW312
PEAK/9th-12th Grades EW307

Adult Sunday School

9:30 a.m. unless noted

Men's Bible Study, 8:30 a.m. FH205
Open to all men, studying scripture and reflections.

Foundations, 10:45 a.m. FH205
A supportive network for parents nurturing families in faith.

Open Door FH201
A diverse gathering of adults of all ages and a great first class for people new to Covenant.

People Class FH Library
Adults ages 50s-70s enjoy discussing a wide variety of topics.

Fellowship Class FH203
Adults 60+, but open to adults of all ages.

Sunday Evening Women, 6 p.m.
Women in late 20s and 30s meet for fellowship in various locations.

Middle School Youth

Reach Director Perrin Tribble at Perrin.Tribble@covenantpresby.org or call 704-804-7569.



I am pleased to announce that our parenting group will begin meeting every month as part of an expanded discussion series called *Making Sense of Middle School*.



Join us on Sunday, Jan. 13 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. - the same time as youth fellowship - to explore topics relevant to the middle school experience. We'll also meet on Feb. 10, March 17, April 7, and May 5, alternating between speakers and fellowship gatherings.

Spring Kickoff Dinner - Sunday, Jan. 6, 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Parents and youth are invited to learn more about our two summer trips to Heifer Ranch in Arkansas and Massanetta youth conference.

Sunday School, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., resumes Jan. 6

6th and 7th graders, Ed Wing 318

8th grade Quest, Ed Wing 312

Youth Choir

Rehearsals are 10:30 to 10:50 a.m. in Ed Wing 315 led by Kenney and Heather Potter. Youth Choir welcomes grades 6-12.

Sundays - Youth Fellowship Night

Dinner is at 5:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall followed by programming.

Wednesdays - Open Table, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., resumes Jan. 9

Following Open Table, youth can decide between Open Gym hosted by Perrin Tribble and Faith and Fellowship with Levi Bannerman.

Save the dates - 2019 summer trips

MSY spring retreat: March 1-3 ■ Quest beach retreat: March 8-10
Youth Sunday: March 31 ■ Heifer Ranch in Arkansas: June 23-June 29 ■ Massanetta Middle School Youth Conference: July 11-14



High School Youth

Reach Director Levi Bannerman at Levi.Bannerman@covenantpresby.org or call 704-804-7563.



Spring Kickoff Dinner - Sunday, Jan. 6, 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Parents and youth are invited to learn more about our spring curriculum and summer trips.

Sunday School, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., resumes Jan. 6

9th - 12th graders, Ed Wing 307

Youth Choir

Rehearsals are 10:30 to 10:50 a.m. in Ed Wing 315 led by Kenney and Heather Potter.

Wednesdays - Open Table Night 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., resumes Jan. 9

Following Open Table, youth can decide between Open Gym hosted by Perrin Tribble and Faith and Fellowship hosted by Levi Bannerman. We'll have several offerings, including art projects, basketball or just a quiet place to study.

Save the dates - 2019 trips

Spring Beach Retreat - March 8-10 at Camp St. Christopher
Yucatan: June 16-22
Washington D.C.: June 23-29
Montreat Youth Conference: July 7-13

Sundays - Youth Fellowship Night

Dinner is at 5:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall followed by activities.

Welcome New Members

through December 17



Shannon Brennan



Amy and Dallas Kaplan
with Ford

Interested in joining Covenant?

We welcome new members every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. in the Parlor, located downstairs in the Sanctuary building.

We also welcome new members on the 4th Sunday of each month in the Fellowship Hall Library at noon.

Get connected: Contact Lora Borrelli, membership and engagement director, at Lora.Borrelli@covenantpresby.org or 704-804-7562.

Starting Point: A way to learn more

Sunday, Jan. 27 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Learn more about Covenant and our mission at a catered barbecue dinner and Q&A with Senior Minister Bob Henderson. Child care is available. Feel free to bring kids, too.



Congregational Notes

Do you have announcements? Let Covenant know by contacting: Michelle.Williamson@covenantpresby.org.

Births

Congratulations to Courtney and Matt Matinata on the birth of their son, Logan Vincent Matinata, on Aug. 17; and to

Katie and Barrett Brown on the birth of their son, Everett Hugh Brown, on Oct. 15; and to

Brittany and Jonathan Martin on the birth of their twin daughters, Adeline Mary Martin and Addison Michelle Martin, on Nov. 22; and to

Mary and Gray Visco on the birth of their son, James Randal Visco, on Nov. 24

Baptisms

Congratulations to Sara and Trey Hoover, who presented their son, William David Hoover, IV, on Dec. 2; and to

Andrea and Justin Hicks who presented their son, Tasher James Hicks, on Dec. 23

Deaths In The Church Family

The congregation extends its sincere sympathy and love to Denise and Richard Gibson, Jr. and their family on the death of his father, Richard Wayne Gibson, on Nov. 24; and to

Stacy and Shel Robinson and their family on the death of his father, Bill Robinson, on Nov. 25; and to

Andrea and Troy King and their family on the death of his mother, Jean Troyke King, on Nov. 29; and to

Dana and Chad Dawson and their family on the death of her father, Allan Bruce Cox, on Dec. 6;

and to Ellen Rhyne and her family on the death of her daughter, Mary Kathryn Rhyne, on Dec. 17, and rejoices with them all in the assurance of the resurrection.



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Stewardship update

Help Covenant make goal

As of this printing, we are at 81 percent of our pledge goal for 2019. Please consider returning a pledge card available in your pew.



You can also visit Covenantpresby.org/pledge or use the scannable QR code via your smart phone.

As the co-chairs of this year's stewardship campaign, Steve and I want to thank you for your generosity in moving us toward this year's pledge goal.

We came into this role understanding that this would be a challenging year because of commitments made to the capital campaign and general economic unease.

That said, we also realize that the mission and ministries of Covenant are more vital than ever -- and that we can only be the church we long to be with everyone's participation.

Let's experience God's abundant blessings upon the work of this church. Let's celebrate enthusiastically our long tradition of giving gifts generously.

— Lecia and Steve Shockley, 2019 Stewardship Campaign Chairs

Make music with Covenant in 2019

Here's a look at rehearsal schedules

Covenant's traditional music ministry invites you to sing and ring. Contact Heather.Potter@covenantpresby.org or 704-804-7581.

Angelus Choir (Grades K-2)
Wednesdays 5:45 to 6:30 p.m.

Chorister Choir (3-5)
Wednesdays 5:45 to 6:30 p.m.

Youth Choir (6-12)
Sundays 10:30 to 10:50 a.m.

Covenant Ringers (Adult)
Mondays 6 to 7 p.m.

Covenant Choir (Adult)
Wednesdays 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.



The contemporary worship team welcomes new vocalists and instrumentalists. Contact Jason.Graffis@covenantpresby.org or 704-804-7584.

9:30 a.m. Sanctuary service
Rehearsals are Wednesdays 6:30 to 9 p.m.

11 a.m. Fellowship Hall service
Rehearsals are Thursdays 6 to 8:30 p.m.

Covenant Contacts

Main Office..... 704-333-9071
News/Announcements..... 704-804-7565
Recreation Wing..... 704-334-7491
Preschool..... 704-333-8658

Covenant Email Addresses

firstname.lastname@covenantpresby.org

Covenant Web Site: www.covenantpresby.org

Worship Online: media.covenantpresby.org

Social Media

[@covenantpresby](https://twitter.com/covenantpresby)

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