

COVENANT *News*

A monthly publication of Covenant Presbyterian Church Charlotte, North Carolina

An aerial photograph of Charlotte, North Carolina, at dusk. The skyline is visible in the background with several skyscrapers illuminated. In the foreground, a large, historic brick church with a prominent steeple is surrounded by green trees. A circular driveway with a star in the center is visible in front of the church.

Covenant Impacts Charlotte

November 1-14

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Message from Bob



Dear friends:

As I write this, I do so fresh off the glow of this year's 'Gratitude Dinner' which captured a sense of our congregation's vitality over the last year. Even during the pandemic, new members joined, children sang, homeless

were served, baptisms and funerals were conducted, and all manner of other important work accomplished, often behind the scenes. I'm so very grateful for it all.

At the end of our Gratitude Dinner, I couldn't help but think how mission forward our life as a congregation is. Everything we do is grounded in a sense of purpose, be it caring for our senior adults or serving our most vulnerable members. And yet, as Jesus taught, it's all motivated by something larger than ourselves, a sense that we have been blessed in order to be a blessing, and that life reaches its highest and holiest purpose when lived in service to others.

In this edition of the newsletter, you'll again see specific opportunities to live into our highest calling of service. The Mission and Outreach team has creatively adapted our Covenant Impacts Charlotte initiative into a COVID-friendly endeavor, and I invite you to join me and what we hope will be many hundreds of others in hands-on service to the larger community. In doing so, I trust you'll spring to life and find great joy.

Let me close by saying 'thank you' for your continued generosity of spirit as we continue to strike that delicate balance between COVID-required limitations and personal desires. You've been outstanding about remembering we are part of a much larger society, and we love well when we remember that and act accordingly.

With abundant gratitude,

Bob

Staff Recognition



Congratulations to Tim Ross & Virginia Rumbley for their amazing service & dedication to Covenant over the last 25 years. *Thank you for all you do!*

Financial Update

Planned Contributions (Year to date through September 30, 2021)

2021 Budgeted:.....\$2,260,500

2021 Actual:.....\$2,183,335

96.7% of Budget

The weekly breakdown below details the average weekly need vs. income to meet our annual giving budget

Budgeted Average Weekly Income.....\$64,550

Actual Average Weekly Donations.....\$53,252

49.5% of annual budget

Thank you for your continued generosity.

Please continue to give Online at covenantpresby.org/give

Text 'Give' to 704-312-7616

Mail or place gifts in offering plate

Scan the QR code at right



SCAN ME

Continuing our Partnerships for Affordable Housing

Throughout the month of September, Covenant made significant investments in multiple affordable housing projects. A task force worked to develop plans for the funds, and with Session approval, we announced the projects during worship over four weeks. Mayfield Memorial Baptist Church, Roof Above, The Relatives and Habitat for Humanity all received funds as a result of the generosity of our congregation. During this blessed year, we have extended our partnerships with our neighbors in Charlotte, giving over \$2.3 million for affordable housing projects across the city. Your generosity continues to build a more whole world across our city, and we are deeply grateful.

Welcome New Members



Paul, Jessica, Annabelle
& Sophia Chandler



Lauren, Patrick, Sophia,
PJ & Freddie Gutierrez



Carol Hlcks



Jason Hines
(pictured with Kelly Hines)



Lesley, Chris & Miles
Muryn



Davis Shaefer
(pictured with Ashley Shaefer)



Cassie & Mike Soistman,
Jack, Phin, Reagan & Clark



Jillian Stubbs



Pat Summers



Alan & Tanya Sykes



Terry & Guyla Vardell



Brian Vincent &
Susie Westrup

Not pictured: Steven Hicks, Elizabeth Melendez, Charlie & Wyatt

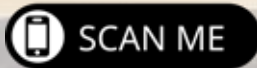
COVENANT IMPACTS CHARLOTTE

November 1-14

For the first 13 days of November, friends of Covenant will be giving of ourselves through service to God and our neighbors, culminating in a big celebration on Sunday, November 14th, Commitment Sunday. There is something for everyone to do either at home, at the Covenant campus or at our partner sites. On November 14, we will be having two sets of service opportunities—one following 9:30 a.m. worship and lunch and the other following 11 a.m. worship and lunch.

How to sign up?

Scan the QR code or visit
covenantpresby.org/in-the-community



Highland Renaissance Academy

Ensuring that all students maximize their academic potential through collaborative learning experience and the support of leaders from home, school and our community.

Construct Rock River

Beautify campus

Paint picnic tables

Urban Promise

To provide children and youth with the spiritual, academic, and social development necessary to become Christian leaders determined to restore their communities.

Organize Library

Make school supply bags

Moore Place

Providing permanent housing and support services for 120 chronically homeless adults.

Make Thanksgiving goodie bags

Prepare meals to be shared on Thanksgiving Day





Mezzanine

To empower working families experiencing homelessness to achieve life-long self-sufficiency through shelter, housing, supportive services, and advocacy.

Beautify campus

Hope Haven

To provides a foundation of recovery for individuals and families impacted by substance use disorder, so they can build healthy independent lives.

Beautify campus

Build Furniture

Habitat for Humanity

Helps families build and improve places to call home.

Habitat build

On-Campus at Covenant

Make Giving Tree ornaments

Write letters to educators

Paint rocks for rock river

Operation Sandwich

Clean landing for Room in the Inn

Pot mums for delivery

Other ways to get involved

Buy supplies in advance of the day

Donate: children's books, books on civil rights/social justice, plain canned and individually packaged food items, pillows, twin sheet sets, lightweight blankets, boxes of handwarmers, games for children

Prepare Texas Hash for freezers

Be a photographer at project site

Experience the *Holy Land* with Covenant members and friends, May 11-20, 2022

HIGHLIGHTS

Caesarea - Mount Carmel - Nazareth

Sea of Galilee - Capernaum

Jerusalem - Tiberias

Bethlehem - Hebron - Breaking the Silence

Masada - Qumran - Ein Gedi - Dead Sea - Jericho

Yad Vashem - Holocaust Memorial - Al-Aqsa Mosque

Shiloh Valley - Nablus - Jacob's Well

Hotels

Retreat Center at Mount of the Beatitudes in Galilee

St. Gabriel's in Bethlehem

St. George's Hotel in Jerusalem

Information Meetings

Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom (meeting ID 81020851931)

Sunday, October 24, 2021 at 12:00 noon in-person in the Welcome Center

Payment information and dates

\$3300 per person (double occupancy)

\$3750 per person (single occupancy)

Includes all meals, lodging & airfare (additional fees for driver tips & possible COVID testing)

Reserve your space by registering online with a \$100 deposit (refundable before January 20, 2022), covenantpresby.org/adults

The trip is limited to 30 participants.



SCAN ME

Welcome New Staff

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

We are pleased to announce that Dailyn Sailor joined the Covenant staff September 1 as Director of Children's Ministry.

Dailyn is a graduate of Florida A&M University (Tallahassee, FL) with a B.S. in Political Science, and a Master of Public Administration degree. She has been an educator for 10+ years. She has served as Site Coordinator for the 21st Century Program for Leon County Schools, (Tallahassee) and most recently as a fifth grade teacher with Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools.

Dailyn will bring her passion for children, resourcefulness, and proven communication skills to our Covenant Children's Ministry program. She articulated a clear



sense of call to continue serving children saying, "I am a person of public service, but I want to use my Christian background to help in the community." Please join us in welcoming Dailyn to our staff and community!

TLC (TRAVEL, LEARN, CONNECT) EVENTS

TLC, Covenant's active adults group enjoys learning and travel (and good food) is hosting the following...

November 9- Drive in Movie- The Greatest Showman

December 1- Christmas Bingo

Join us for nights of fun and fellowship. To RSVP, please contact Michelle Williamson

HAVEN'T GOTTEN YOUR FLU SHOT OR COVID BOOSTER YET? NO WORRIES!

Flu & COVID vaccinations (both initial shots and boosters) will be provided at Covenant by VaxClinic. Book your appointment at vaxclinic.com/covidvaccine. Bring a photo ID and your insurance card. Walk-ins are welcome.



RECREATION WING UPDATES

Reservations are no longer required for our Recreation Wing. Fifty participants are welcome in the building at any given time, with 25 allowed per class on the gym floor. Masks are required when in the building.

Rec Wing hours continue to be Monday – Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to noon and 2:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m., and on Friday from 8 a.m. to noon. Personal training sessions are available. Learn more and sign up: covenantpresby.org/recreation-ministry.

LEARNING & GROWING AT COVENANT

CHILDREN

YOUNG SCHOLARS - OPEN TABLE

Young Scholars enjoy learning Bible Stories, important scripture passages, and fun activities like making prayer bracelets. Children's Ministry offers two time slots to enjoy Young Scholars for children in Kindergarten through 5th grades.

Children in 4th and 5th grades meet at 5:45 pm and children in Kindergarten through 3rd grade meet at 6:30 pm each Wednesday night in room 204 in the Education Wing during Open Table. Enter through the Welcome Center. Masks are required.

Save the dates!

On November 21, 3rd graders will receive Bibles at the 11:00 Sanctuary service.

2nd Grade "Ready, Set, Worship" - Baptism: January 23 & 30, 2022

Children's Sunday School volunteers needed!

Teams of volunteers rotate Sunday School leadership once a month for our nine classes, Twos – 5th grade. This is a great way to meet other families. If you would like to volunteer, contact Dailyn Sailor (dailyn.sailor@CovenantPresby.org) for more information.



YOUNG ADULTS

October 26: YA Bible Study, 7:30-8:30 pm, Zoom

October 31: Pop-Up Christian Education: Halloween Edition, 9:30-10:30 am, Fellowship Hall, room 207A

November 21- FRIENDSGIVING, 4:00-6:00 pm, Catawba Brewing

Scan the QR code or contact Molly Smerko (molly.smerko@covenantpresby.org) for more information on upcoming Young Adult Events



YOUTH

Wednesday Nights



Martin

Join us Wednesdays for mid-week fellowship and dinner. Dinner at 6 pm followed by games, devotions, and fellowship, 6:30-7:30!



Alyssa

For questions about joining Covenant Middle School or High School Youth, email Alyssa Pacheco (middle school) at alyssa.pacheco@covenantpresby.org, or Martin Pruitt (high school) at Martin.Pruitt@CovenantPresby.org.

Sunday School

Sunday School for Middle School and High School meets at 9:30 on Sunday Mornings. Middle School meets for doughnuts outside the education building and High School meetings in the amphitheater. On the first Sunday of the month, we meet a few minutes early outside the Sanctuary to worship together at 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Youth Fellowship – October 24

Covenant Youth will be lead by Covenant's Art's Taskforce as we explore the stained glass windows of Covenant. We will look into the historical, artistic, and social justice aspects of the windows. It should be very interesting and a ton of fun. Parents are welcomed and encouraged to attend.

QUEST

The 2021-2022 Quest year begins Sunday, November 7, from 5 to 7 p.m. with a Mentor Reveal! This is an exciting time for our 8th graders when they have the chance to meet their mentors who will work with them throughout the school year as they prepare for confirmation in the spring.

Upcoming Events for Middle School Youth

October 31: Trick or Treating!

November 3: Open Table Programming: Music, Dinner, and Fellowship

November 7: Quest Mentor Reveal; First Sunday Frozen Yogurt

November 14: Covenant Impacts Charlotte

Upcoming Events for High School Youth

November 7: Campfire Theology

November 19-21: High School Fall Retreat in Montreat

First Sunday Series: "Life On Purpose"

First Sundays of the month at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall or join via Zoom

Sunday, November 7 – "Giving of Yourself"

Speakers: Tom Christy, Tricia Smith, Tim Kendrick

Public servants like Mahatma Gandhi, Dorothy Day, and Mother Teresa teach us about finding meaning in life through service to others. One way to live life on purpose is to give of yourself and your time, energy, and talents in the service of others. From lowering stress to boosting self-confidence, research has shown that volunteering offers many health benefits, especially for older adults. We will hear from those in our Covenant community whose lives have been transformed in the service of others.

Sunday, December 5, 2021 – "Different Voices"

Speakers: Ariel Gritter, Vince and Sharon DiSandro

We are not meant to live life in a bubble. When was the last time you spent intentional time with someone who thinks differently than you? Looks differently than you? What can people who are different than us teach us about our faith? This Sunday, we will hear from Covenant members whose lives have been enriched by welcoming different voices into their lives.



Adults

Contact Grace Lindvall at grace.lindvall@covenantpresby.org to learn more about these opportunities and get connected

Men's Bible Study

Meets at 8:45 a.m. in Welcome Center Room 204

This group discusses the previous week's sermon and its real-life applications to current life experiences.

The People Class

Meets at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall Room 201

Grab a cup of coffee outside and join the group for discussion around various topics and books.

The Fellowship Class

Meets at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall Room 203 and on Zoom

This long-held Covenant Sunday School class has recently made some enhancements and will be taught by various Covenant members as they study 1 Corinthians together.

Open Door Class

Meets at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall Room 205 and on Zoom

This class watches a short video together, followed by discussion. This is an easy class to join for the first time ever or the first time in a while with no preparation. Come enjoy conversation and friendly faces.

The Foundations Class

Meets at 10:45 a.m. in Education Wing Room 212

This class is specifically for parents of young children with a discussion centered on real-life applications of the day's sermon.

Small Groups

Small groups meet at various times throughout the week.

What's Happening at *Covenant*

Tables on the Green

Whether you worship at 8:45, 9:30 or 11:00, in the Chapel, the Sanctuary, or the Fellowship Hall, you are invited to take a moment to enjoy coffee and conversation on the circle on Sunday. Learn more about what is going on in Congregational Care, Education, Mission and Outreach, and Worship and Engagement.



Youth Basketball League

Covenant is happy to announce that it will be participating in the Impact Youth Basketball League this season.

Sign-ups are now open, at covenantpresby.org/recreation-ministry. If you have any questions or are interested in being a coach, please email Director of Recreation Minister, Kevin Harper.



Open Table Meals & Grab-N-Go

Tables will be set up outside for people to enjoy their dinner or Hot Grab-n-Go pre-ordered take-out meals will be available for pick from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Order by Sunday at 2 pm for collection on Wednesday. Scan the QR code to order.



2022 Retreats

Men's Fellowship Annual Retreat

Mark it on your calendars, March 2022. This is a chance to connect with men of all ages over food, sports, and fellowship. For more information, please Contact Wade Baer and Luke Askins (lucasaskins@gmail.com).

Presbyterian Women's Retreat

February 4-6th 2022 at at The Pinehurst Resort. Our guest speaker will be Kate Fielder, Associate Pastor at Second Presbyterian Church. She will be leading us in a discussion about Joy! Registration information will be coming soon. Scholarships are available. There is something for everyone! For more information, contact Serenity (serenitye.taylor@covenantpresby.org).

Sing with Covenant Choir during the Christmas Season

Join us as we prepare music for the Christmas season

Sing new and familiar Christmas songs and carols with brass, bells, strings, and organ.

Rehearsals are Wednesdays, 6:30-7:45 beginning November 3 in the Chapel

Contact Heather for futher information (heather.potter@covenantpresby.org)





Upcoming Outdoor Ministry Events

Gather outside for a variety of activities for all ages and stages. Enjoy God's creation and fellowship with others.

- 10/30 Paddle with Covenant
- 11/2 Wing Haven Kids' Outing
- 11/7 Sunday Stroll on Greenway
- 11/13 Hike with Covenant
- 11/18 Stream Clean at Chantilly Park
- 12/5 Sunday Stroll on Greenway
- 12/21 Winter Solstice Hike

For more details or to register for an event, visit covenantpresby.org/outdoor-ministry

Looking ahead

Wednesdays, 6:45 - 7:30 pm in Fellowship Hall

October 27 - Staff from QC Family Tree working on racial justice

November 3 - Advanced Care Planning. We plan for weddings, for graduations and for special trips. This presentation will provide simple steps for thinking through and sharing your desired health care decisions.

November 10 - Hospice and Palliative Care - What's Changed? Learn the differences in hospice and palliative care and what changes have occurred in the last 2 years.

November 17 - Witness to the Resurrection: the Presbyterian Funeral, presented by Katherine Kerr.



FRESH AIR & FOOTBALL

SUNDAY, OCT. 24TH AT 12:30 P.M.

JOIN US FOR A PANTHERS' VIEWING PARTY ON COVENANT'S CAMPUS. HOTDOGS, HAMBURGERS AND FIXINGS PROVIDED, ALONG WITH TAILGATING GAMES.

BRING YOUR OWN CHAIRS AND BLANKETS.

SIGN UPS REQUIRED - ATTENDANCE IS LIMITED.



Fall Worship

8:45 a.m. Traditional – Chapel

An intimate, meditative worship experience complemented with organ and soloists.

9:30 a.m. Contemporary – Sanctuary

An uplifting service featuring the Covenant Worship Team of instrumentalists and singers.

11 a.m. Traditional – Sanctuary

A Sanctuary service with the full Covenant Choir and occasional instrumentalists.

11 a.m. Contemporary – Fellowship Hall

Come as you are for a service in the Fellowship Hall with acoustic music, faith stories, and various ways to engage in prayer

On Sunday, November 7, we will celebrate the occasion of All Saints' Day. During every morning worship service friends and family members will be invited to come forward to place a flower, provided by Presbyterian Women, in a common vase to create an arrangement honoring loved ones who have died.



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Stewardship season is upon us!

This Stewardship season, we want to celebrate the impact of your time, treasures, and talents. We hope to remind you of the special moments created by our church. Most importantly, we strive to inspire you to find new ways to bind yourself even further to Covenant and its mission. While we can't guarantee 2022 will be "normal," we know that it will be INCREDIBLE because of your investment.

This year's Stewardship theme is "The Ties that Bind." We invite you to think back on the many people, missions, and events that tie you to Covenant. Come join us as we commit to Covenant for 2022. Blessed be the Ties that Bind!

With blessings and gratitude,

Katie & Lee Cornwell

2022 Stewardship Campaign Chairs



You can scan the QR code to pledge, visit covenantpresby.org/stewardship or return the pledge card you received in the mail.



Covenant Main Office / Welcome Center: 704-333-9071 | News/Announcements: 704-804-7565 | Recreation Wing: 704-334-7491
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Web Site: www.covenantpresby.org | Worship Online: covenantpresby.org/live | Social Media: @covenantpresby #covenantpresby