



## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2018

Please take a minute to complete the Worship Response Card in your bulletin and place it in the offering plate. This helps us record your attendance and show our appreciation for your presence. It also is an easy way to sign up for upcoming events.

Prayer requests may be submitted on your Worship Response Card, online under the "Connect/Care" tab or to Parish Nurse Mary Mattiacci ([Mary.Mattiacci@covenantpresby.org](mailto:Mary.Mattiacci@covenantpresby.org)).

### 2019 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Our campaign has reached 81 percent of our goal. A team has begun making calls to encourage pledges. Please consider returning a pledge card available in your pew. You can also use the scannable QR code at right via your smart phone or visit [CovenantPresby.org/pledge](http://CovenantPresby.org/pledge). Your commitment enables us to position our ministries for the broadest impact.



### ONE WEEK LEFT FOR 2018 YEAR-END GIVING

Each year, Covenant receives 16 percent of annual contributions in December. Please consider a tax-deductible contribution in these ways:

- **During Sunday morning worship.** Contributions made during services through Sunday, Dec. 30, will be credited to 2018 unless otherwise noted.
- **Online at [CovenantPresby.org/give](http://CovenantPresby.org/give).** Any contribution must be complete before midnight Dec. 31. You can also use the scannable QR code at right.



To be deductible in 2018, your gift must be received or postmarked prior to midnight on Dec. 31. Church offices are open until 5 p.m. For information on stock gifts, contact Virginia Rumbley or Bill Keith at the church office.

### SUMMER OPPORTUNITY FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Today at 10:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall Library

Consider spending your summer with People in Mission, a life-changing urban mission experience sponsored by Covenant. Stop by a coffee hosted by our missions team.

### WORSHIP ON CHRISTMAS EVE

A special offering will support God's work with our mission partners at Highland Renaissance Academy in Charlotte; Renguti School in Kenya and Accion Ministries in the Yucatan. You can worship online on Facebook and at [Media.CovenantPresby.org](http://Media.CovenantPresby.org).

- **11 a.m., Children's Worship:** This child-centered service lasts 20 minutes and is followed by Nativity animals on the Circle and birthday cake for Jesus.
- **3 p.m., Music of Appalachia:** The worship team and special guests will showcase the banjo, mandolin, cello, fiddle and double bass.
- **5 p.m., Traditional Candlelight Worship:** This service features the Covenant Choir. A prelude begins 15 minutes before the service.

### CHRISTMAS, NEW YEAR'S COMMUNITY DINNERS

Bring a dish to share on Christmas Day as Covenant hosts our Room in the Inn guests in the Fellowship Hall at 6 p.m. We'll serve ham and turkey. Please RSVP and indicate if you can bring a side or dessert. We also need volunteers to help serve dinner for guests on New Year's Day. To get connected, write "RITI Potluck" on your WR card.

*Large-print bulletins and hearing devices are available from the ushers.  
Audio-induction hearing loops are installed for use with hearing aids.*

## NEXT WEEK: UNIFIED WORSHIP ON SUNDAY

10 a.m. in Sanctuary

Join us to bridge the gap between Christmas and a new year by exploring the story of the wise men. Due to an encounter with Christ and movement of the Spirit, the trajectory of their lives changed. After Christmas, how will our lives change?

## COMING IN 2019

### BIBLE, VIOLENCE & GOD'S CONCERN FOR VULNERABLE

Winter Convocation, Sunday, Jan. 6 at 9:30 a.m.

Dr. Brennan Breed will speak at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall and join the 11 a.m. Fellowship Hall service for a dialogical sermon with Jessica Patchett. Dr. Breed is Assistant Professor of Old Testament at Columbia Theological Seminary.

### DEEP DIVE: HOW TO MAKE, KEEP RESOLUTIONS

Sunday, Jan. 6 at 7 p.m. in FH203

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 Senior Minister Bob Henderson for the next Deep Dive Questions, a monthly series led by rotating speakers on questions submitted by our congregation. Afterward, we head to Dilworth Neighborhood Grille for social time. All are welcome!

### SISTERS IN SPIRIT WELCOMES SALLY BREWSTER

Tuesday, Jan. 8 at 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Women of Covenant are invited for breakfast and a faith story from Sally Brewster, owner of Park Road Books, who will offer book suggestions for winter reading. Bring a friend! We meet on second Tuesdays every month. If you would like to reserve a meal, please write "Sisters in Spirit" on your WR card.

### NEW GROUP FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENTS

Sunday, Jan. 13, 5:30 to 7 p.m.

A new discussion group for parents called *Making Sense of Middle School* will meet at the same time as youth fellowship to explore topics relevant to your family. We'll also meet on Feb. 10, March 17, April 7, and May 5 for speakers and gatherings. Contact Perrin.Tribble@covenantpresby.org or write "Middle School Group" on your WR card.

### GRIEF & HEALING: TAKING THE JOURNEY TOGETHER

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

Covenant's care ministry offers a discussion and support group for adults experiencing the loss of a spouse, parent, sibling or friend. If you or someone you know is facing a difficult season, join us in healing together. Contact Susan.Ferone@covenantpresby.org or write "Taking the Journey Together" on your WR card.

### OPEN TABLE RETURNS WEDNESDAY, JAN. 9

You're invited for dinner in the Fellowship Hall from 5 to 6:30 p.m., followed by programs for all ages at 6:30 p.m., including these opportunities:

- Open Table Kickoff Night on Jan. 9: Come play trivia, hear stories of life-changing mission experiences and taste food from regions of the world.
- Embracing Jesus' Ways of Peace. Three-part speaker series on Jan. 16, 23 and 30.
- Make or Break: Resolutions for a Healthy New Year. Series begins Jan. 16.
- Covenant Choir: Rehearsals are 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in Peek Music Room.
- Children's Choirs (Grades K-5): Rehearsals are 5:45 to 6:30 p.m.
- Young Scholars, an elementary-age Bible study. Drop off in Rec Wing kitchen.
- Music & Movement: Ages 4-5 are invited for high-energy Bible story with music.
- Childcare for infants-K is available from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.
- Youth Groups (Grades 6-12): 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.

**Reservations helpful but not required: Visit [CovenantPresby.org/OpenTable](http://CovenantPresby.org/OpenTable)**