

COVENANT *News*

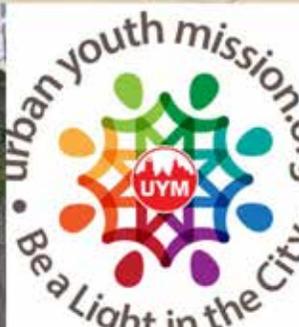
A monthly publication of Covenant Presbyterian Church

Charlotte, North Carolina



...YOU HAVE TAUGHT ME FROM MY YOUTH

Psalm 71



IN THIS ISSUE

4 Levi reflects on his introduction to Covenant

6 What's new at Open Table this fall

9 Rev. Will Willimon to speak at Covenant

Message from Bob

Dear friends,



Proof-texting scripture verses toward one's purposes can be a dangerous enterprise. Rob Bell, a leading writer/speaker on matters of faith, recently spoke to a large crowd in the Neighborhood Theater to suggest this very thing, often quoting his new book to support his hypothesis. It's true, no doubt, but it's also true that some scripture passages address core life issues and can guide us in our decision making.

Hebrews 12:1-2 has long been one of those passages for me.: "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things unseen." A New Testament scholar I live with suggests this translation, "Faith is the underlying foundation of hope, the unseen cross-examination of pragmatics."

That verse has come to mind many times recently, as our Planning and Evaluation Board has spent countless (several hundred) hours considering how to address the future needs of our city and congregation. We've pored over drawings, developed budgets, argued merits, proposed timelines and consulted various subject-matter experts. It's been alternately inspiring and painstaking. I assure you that by the time the final recommendation comes to the Session and congregation, it will – for the planning team – be more like birthing a child than presenting a report.

Yet even with all our diligence, it's also true that we won't – and can't – answer every contingency. To move forward with the upcoming recommendations will require genuine faith, a 'cross-examination of pragmatics,' and deep reliance on the 'underlying foundation of hope.' In other words, to be successful will require an admission that we cannot accomplish our goals on our own, that God's active participation will be essential. I'm glad for that and think it's good for us as a congregation.

I continue to solicit your patience and prayers. The sub-committees of the Planning and Evaluation Board are working hard to have specific recommendations to the Session in August and September. Those plans will then be refined and brought to the congregation. The focus and scope (Child Development Center, Campus Improvements, Affordable Housing) of these recommendations remains unchanged but the particulars are migrating in some very exciting -- and ambitious -- directions. I'm confident you will find the ideas compelling.

I invite you to peruse the rest of this newsletter with a keen eye as to where you might join in, as there are so many signs of life and good news around Covenant these days. For each and all of them, I am grateful.

Warmly,

Bob

Session Digest

Recent Session Meeting Highlights

- Endorsed Lucy Crain as an Inquirer to continue her studies at Union Presbyterian Seminary.
- Approved a sabbatical for Rev. Joan Watson from October through December. This is a time provided for clergy to disengage from regular tasks and from the stresses of being on call.
- Announced an ordination service for David Watson, son of Joan Watson, at 11 a.m. on Sunday, Aug. 13 in the Sanctuary. David is a chaplain for the New Orleans Police Department.

Financial Update

Pledge Receipts (Year to date through May 31, 2017)

2017 Budgeted:.....\$1,212,600

2017 Actual:.....\$1,225,335

101.1% of Budget

Give Online at www.covenantpresby.org/give

Security upgrade

Covenant has installed cameras at key points around campus as part of ongoing efforts to ensure safety and security.

The cameras, monitored by church personnel via a smart phone app, bring Covenant in line with peer churches that have implemented similar measures.

A task force of Covenant members recommended the cameras and other updates, including:

- A uniformed, off-duty CMPD officer on Sunday mornings, primarily to direct traffic on Morehead Street. The officer is also available to provide safety assistance.
- Enhanced door access controls for the Sanctuary office, preschool and Fellowship Hall entrances. A smart phone app allows for two-way communication and remote unlocking.

Care & Support

Contact Susan Ferone, Covenant's care coordinator, at Susan.ferone@covenantpresby.org or call her at 704-804-7585 to RSVP for upcoming events.

Being a caregiver to a loved one

Discussion group resumes Thursday, Sept. 14 at 11 a.m. and will meet monthly

Are you in charge of providing care for a spouse or loved one? Hear from experts and talk with peers about shared challenges in this supportive space. We'll gather in the Parlor.



Lunch & Learn: How to navigate Medicare

Tuesday, Sept. 12 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in FH207

Get advice on how to make the best decisions for you and your family. Our speakers are Carol Baxter and David Isaacs, Covenant members and trained SHIP counselors (pictured at right).



SHIP counseling available this fall

Free help in reviewing your drug plan

Are you or a loved one enrolled in Medicare? Get help in reviewing your drug plan during the Open Enrollment period from Oct. 15 to Dec. 7.

Carol and David will be on Covenant's campus every Wednesday (Fellowship Hall 205) and on the Sharon Towers campus every Tuesday (craft room) during the Open Enrollment period. Call the Shepherd's Center at 704-365-1995 to schedule a one-on-one session.



Nurse's Note

Mary.mattiacci@covenantpresby.org

Dear ones,



Almost every one of us has a smartphone these days and they are wonderful gadgets. But just like almost everything in this world, too much of a good thing can be bad for

you. According to experts at the Cleveland Clinic's Center for Behavioral Health, cell phone overuse can be just like any other kind of addiction. Ask yourself these questions to check on the health of your relationship with your phone.

- Is using your smartphone getting in the way of work or making it hard to concentrate on tasks?
- Do you think about your smartphone even when you're not using it?
- Do you feel impatient and irritable if you're not holding it?
- Do you check your phone constantly, and for longer than you intended? Do family members say you use it too much?

If your smartphone use is overactive, you can take steps to cut back. Try to set aside a few hours of no-phone time every day. Set goals and keep track of what you're doing without your phone, such as reading or being with your family.

Set aside time at the end of the day for relaxing activities like meditation or listening to music. Turn your phone off during these breaks. If that's too stressful, then turn off the alerts.

Above all, don't let your phone interfere with getting enough restful sleep. Stop using it at least an hour before you go to sleep -- looking at screens too close to bedtime can interfere with the body's natural process of winding down before bed. Feel free to text me if you'd like to talk about it!

Take care,

Mary

It Feels Good to Give



American
Red Cross



BLOOD DRIVE

Sunday, August 13

8 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Recreation Wing - Gym

Contact Mary Mattiacci to sign up:
mary.mattiacci@covenantpresby.org
704.804.7561

Covenant Staff News

Lucy Crain named mission co-director

Search chair: 'We loved her excitement'

Following an extensive search, Covenant lay leaders chose someone from the church family to help guide our work in creating a more whole and just world.

Lucy Crain believes God is using Covenant as an agent for change. As co-director of mission and outreach, she will bring us together to respond to God's reconciling vision.

A search team interviewed seven finalists from a field of 30+ applicants that included ministers, corporate pros and outreach directors. Lucy stood out because of her insights on the biblical basis for service and her record of bringing new folks into a mission program that she knows well as a Covenant member.



"We loved her excitement when she spoke of matching church members to opportunities suited for their gifts," said Amy Capitano, chair of the search committee.

Lucy will work with Carla Leaf, our current mission director, during a transition leading up to Carla's retirement in June.

The role represents a natural next step for Lucy, in her fourth year as assistant to Bob Henderson. Lucy has a Master's degree in counseling and is pursuing a divinity degree at Union Presbyterian Seminary.

"Joining the Covenant staff has been my greatest vocational joy," Lucy said. "I am excited about the future, particularly as we seek to serve the most vulnerable among us and shape the landscape of our community."

John Richardson says goodbye

'I will treasure the time I spent' in music program

John Richardson used words like pride, love and gratitude to reflect on his tenure as Covenant's director of traditional music and principal organist.

John's last day at Covenant was July 30. He will remain in Charlotte, where he has assumed responsibility for the North Carolina region of a freight brokerage business recently inherited by his family. Eventually he plans to return to music ministry.



With his skill for bringing together voices, organ, bells and other instruments, John continued Covenant's tradition of glorifying God through excellent music. "Please keep me in your prayers as I incorporate this new venture into my repertoire," John wrote in a message to the choir. "I will treasure the time I spent making beautiful music with you."



Recapping a summer of youth service

Levi reflects on his first Covenant trip



Levi Bannerman
Director of High
School Youth

The reality hit me that morning inside the Charlotte airport. There I stood, surrounded by dozens of Covenant high school youth and their families. This was my first interaction with almost everyone. Yet we were about to board a plane to spend a week together in Chicago.

Looking back, I wouldn't change it even if I could. By the time we landed at O'Hare, my anxiety had vanished and I felt like part of the Covenant family.

My use of the word 'family' is intentional because I truly believe that our young people consider themselves – and anyone who wishes to join – as members of a family. Inclusivity can be a tough thing to find in our world. But throughout a week of service in Chicago, I watched these high school students exhibit hospitality and inclusivity toward everyone they met.

Our teams painted, gardened, played games with children and entertained seniors. At the end of each day, we would come back exhausted but heartened. I can't imagine a better way to begin our journey together.

Levi invites you to a new season of high school youth activities this fall. Learn about what's in store on page 10. You can reach Levi at Levi.bannerman@covenantpresby.org or 704-804-7563.

Missions Claim your spot for fall projects

Many opportunities to volunteer and contribute



Carla Leaf
Director of Mission
and Outreach

The missions team plans a busy fall season of serving our neighbors in need at home and beyond. To get connected, contact me at Carla.leaf@covenantpresby.org or 704-804-7578.

Join the team for mission trip to western NC

Trip Leader: Kim Barnhardt
Sept. 5-9 Cost: \$350 Group: 20 people
Last call! Discover the needs of people in our own state as we work on a Habitat build and at an elementary school in Avery County.

"It feels a world away from the big city," Kim says. "You experience the feel of people in a small community caring for each other. Unlike a global experience, there is little language barrier. It can be just as rewarding as traveling far."

Help fill backpacks for children in need

Drop off school supplies in the church office or Rec Wing. We need pencils, erasers, wide rule composition notebooks, Crayola markers, crayons, safety scissors and glue sticks for children at our partner schools – Highland Renaissance in Charlotte and Crossnore Elementary in Avery County.

Offering women a safe place to stay

With the Salvation Army's Center of Hope filled to capacity, single women find themselves without safe shelter at night. Covenant will join others in the faith community to open our doors for a week of overnight stays. You can help prepare meals, bring snacks and/or spend time with our guests evenings during the week of Sept. 17-23.

Save the Date: Covenant Impacts Charlotte

On Covenant's church-wide day of service, Sunday, Nov. 12, we'll gather for unified worship and then fan out to do good works for our city and its people.



Volunteers read with Freedom School scholars as part of an hour called DEAR - Drop Everything and Read.

Learn to speak Spanish

Many of our travelers to Mexico have expressed interest in learning to speak Spanish. Covenant will host a conversation course every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. beginning Sept. 5.

Mariam Jameel is not your average Spanish instructor. She is a professor at Queens University and will teach you how to speak Spanish faster than you ever imagined. For details or to register, contact Mariam at profesorajameel@gmail.com or 704-726-2644.



Covenant in Kenya

Team revisits Renguti School

A mission team from Covenant served at Renguti School, a small, rural school outside Nairobi, to support teachers and work with children. With our Christmas Eve offering, the Renguti children enjoyed a field trip to a giraffe park to experience life outside the village.

Open Table @ Covenant **A guide to Wednesday nights this fall**



Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m., Sept. 13 - Oct. 11 Fellowship Hall (Main)

The latest research shows that future success is determined *before* a young person even begins Kindergarten. What does it take to prepare for reading, math, science and wise life choices?

Hear from experts and gain the tools to become an engaged citizen, particularly for children affected by poverty. If you're a parent or grandparent, equip yourself with practical advice on the best ways to support your family.

This is more than a conversation topic. A group of Covenant lay leaders are pursuing a vision for a full-day child development center for Charlotte families of economically diverse backgrounds. We'll hear about it in the final installment.



Sept. 13: The surprising science of the young mind
Dr. Bobbie Rowland, professor emerita of child development at UNC Charlotte, shares breakthroughs in understanding the young mind. Learn how a child becomes an active member of a home, community and school.

Sept. 20: Growing up at Covenant: Learning through play
Anne Lowrance, director of children's ministries, and Kathie Grabert, weekday school director, explain how Covenant fosters learning through music, movement and play.



Sept. 27: An inside look at Read Charlotte's ambitious goal
Munro Richardson, director of Read Charlotte, talks about the crisis of illiteracy and what Charlotte must do to improve.

Oct. 4: Solving our community's poverty challenge
Dr. Vivian Correa, professor at UNC Charlotte, gives us an eye-opening look at how early education fuels upward mobility -- a big deal in Charlotte, where children have the lowest odds of climbing out of poverty compared to peer cities, according to a Harvard study.



Oct. 11: How Covenant is responding
Nancy Falls, Helen Richards and Adam Schauer, members of a Covenant task force, offer a bold response to one of Charlotte's greatest needs.



Wednesday Vespers in the Chapel 6:30 p.m., starting Sept. 13

Join Martha Isaacs and Grady Moseley to explore spiritual disciplines helpful in seeking God and being attentive to God seeking us.



We will practice *lectio divina* (holy reading) and pray for others' needs as well as our own. We will rest in the God who has sustained us through our hectic days.

Get connected: Contact Martha at marthaisaacs51@gmail.com.



Exploring 'Disunity in the Church'

Adult Summer Sunday School continues through Sept. 3

Why do Christians with a heart for unity have such a hard time actually uniting?

We're spending the summer trying to answer that question as we read scripture and watch short films by Duke Divinity professor Christena Cleveland and Father Greg Boyle, author of *Tattoos on the Heart*.

Now is a great time to jump in. The class meets every Sunday from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in FH203.

Despite Jesus' prayer that all Christians "be one," we too often cluster in like-minded groups. We can equip ourselves to overcome hidden forces that divide us.

Here's a look at topics and teachers:

8/6 Solidarity with the Oppressed; Diane Powell

8/13 Clinging to a Tiny God; John & Alice Arwood

8/20 Hope for the Future; Jen Christianson

8/27 The Jesus Strategy; Morgan & Jeff Hallen

9/3 Conclusion, Communion as Healing; Henry Trexler



adult summer sunday school

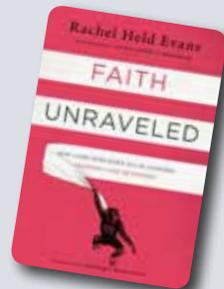
DISUNITY IN THE CHURCH

overcoming division in christianity

Front porch book chat

Sunday, Aug. 20, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
at the home of Cheryl Hoover

Join us for a discussion on *Faith Unraveled* by Rachel Held Evans. The book tackles issues of faith and doubt, and shows how occasional uncertainty leads to a stronger faith. Contact: Jen.christianson@covenantpresby.org.



Summer reading suggestions

Preview themes we'll explore this fall

Are you a small group leader (or interested in becoming one)? Get a head start on themes we'll explore in the fall. Find copies in the small group library in the Ed Wing.

Rebuilding the Foundations: Social Relationships in Ancient Scripture, Walter Brueggemann and John Brueggemann

Why did Jesus, Moses, Buddha, and Mohammed Cross the Road?, Brian McLaren

Reflections on the Psalms, C.S. Lewis

Making All Things New, Henri Nouwen

Fear of the Other: No Fear in Love, Will Willimon

Important Dates

Adult Education Leader Training - Wednesday, Aug. 30. Details TBA.

Young Adults Fall Kickoff - Tuesday, Sept. 12. Details TBA.

Looking ahead to fall

Understanding mental illness

An Open Table series will equip us to support ourselves and those around us. We'll hear from neighbors who have faced mental illness and experts who will share the latest research. Sponsored by Covenant's Health and Wellness Committee, this series also welcomes First Presbyterian and Myers Park Presbyterian churches. Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m., Oct. 25 to Nov. 15.

Montreat visits Covenant

A delegation from Montreat will speak Wednesday, Oct. 18 at 6:30 p.m. to tell us what's new on the mountain.

Montreat is undergoing a renewal that includes:

- completely renovating the main hotel, Assembly Inn
- updating Anderson Auditorium
- developing new programs and retreats while retaining the rich legacies for youth, worship, music and the arts
- protecting the wilderness trails through conservation

We'll hear from Richard DuBose, VP of the conference center, and Grayson Blair, Covenant member and vice-chair of the Montreat board. All are welcome.



A message of thanks from Epiphany School

'You have invited us...into the beautiful tapestry of Covenant'



Housed on the top floor of the Ed Wing, Epiphany welcomes students with social and communication challenges who move through our world a little differently.

Dear Church Family:

As our third school year at Covenant comes to a close, the board of Epiphany would like to express our deepest gratitude for another exceptional year.

Our students don't easily "fit" into typical environments (school or otherwise). At Epiphany, their unique minds are celebrated. They thrive under the tutelage of engaged teachers and a daily "Friends and Feelings" class that teaches social and communication skills that the rest of us learn naturally.

Beyond simply "leasing" space to us, you have gladly invited us to be woven into the beautiful tapestry of Covenant – from your staff who engage daily with students and faculty to the Covenant congregation who has fully embraced us as a partner.

Thank you all for your faith in our school and in our continued relationship.

*Sincerely yours,
The Epiphany School Board of Directors*

TLC Upcoming Events

Travel, Learn, Connect is an active group of adults who enjoy learning and travel (and good food). RSVP: Mary.mattiacci@covenantpresby.org

Preview of a Bechtler exhibit A talk by Laura Allison

Laura Allison of the Bechtler Museum speaks on the Swiss artist Jean Tinguely, a painter and sculptor known for his sculptural machines in the Dada tradition. *Wednesday, Aug. 9. Snacks at 10:30 a.m. with program at 11 in Morrison Chapel (moved for Vacation Bible School.)*



A trip to uptown and the Bechtler Lunch at Halcyon

We'll travel to the Carillon Building to view the Tinguely mobile and then to the Bechtler to see the exhibit. Lunch will be at Halcyon restaurant inside the Mint Museum. Wear comfortable shoes for walking. *Wednesday, Aug. 16. We'll leave from Covenant at 10:15 a.m. and*

return at 3:30 p.m. Please RSVP to Mary by Aug. 8 so that we can get a headcount.



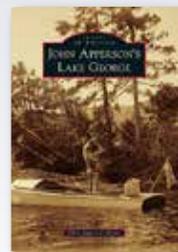
Covenant's TLC active group of adults visited Montreat for a tour of the Presbyterian Heritage Center and a talk on the St. John's Bible.

Hear from a historian Ellen Apperson Brown speaks at Covenant

Covenant's PEOPLE Sunday School class invites all to a talk at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, Aug. 20 in the Library.

Historian and writer Ellen Apperson Brown grew up at Covenant. She has written a book, *John Apperson's Lake George*, about the conservation efforts of her great uncle in the early 1900s to save land from development and pollution.

Ellen will share lessons on what we can do to advocate for responsible growth and preservation.



Convocation *Sunday Talk*

Sunday, September 10: Rev. Will Willimon on "Fear of the Other: No Fear in Love."

Rev. Willimon, one of America's most respected preachers, invites listeners to remember the God who comes to us through so-called outsiders, immigrants and those without status.

The former Duke Chapel dean will speak at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall and join us for 11 a.m. contemporary worship.



Sunday Mornings Summer

Covenant operates on a modified schedule through September 3.

Worship Services

9:30 a.m. Contemporary Sanctuary

11 a.m. Traditional Sanctuary

Re-connect coffee and chat time for parents

Join us every Sunday from 10:30 to 11 a.m. in EW207 and 212.

Covenant Kids

Sunday morning Christian education for elementary students will begin in worship at 9:30 a.m. (only) and move to the education wing following the Time for Young Disciples.

A shepherd will be in the narthex at 9:20, with shepherd's crook and clipboard. Parents may sign in their child and speak to the shepherd for details. That same shepherd will escort children to EW207 following the children's message. Please pick up your elementary age children from EW207 after the service.

Early childhood age children (infants-kindergarten) can be taken to child care on the first floor of the education wing and signed in from 9:15 a.m. to noon.

Covenant Kids Education



Open Picnic Table Wednesday nights

Finale is Aug. 2. BYO picnic supper and join all ages on the Circle. Early Childhood Committee provides ice cream/popsicles.

Vacation Bible School is Aug. 7-11

The halls will fill with campers as we learn about Noah and the concepts of righteousness, obedience, courage, trust and love.

VBS Friday Celebration

Join us for a closing ceremony at 11:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. We hope to "fill an ark" for Heifer Project International.

VBS children sing in worship

Children will sing at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Wear your VBS T-shirt!

Coffee & Chaos

Preschoolers and parents are invited to the Gym for play and chat Aug. 24 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. We'll bring the coffee.

Blessing of the Backpacks

Students of all ages are invited to bring your backpacks to worship on Sunday, Aug. 27 as we kick off a new year.

Covenant Kids needs you!

It takes a village. We rely on 32 volunteers per week to staff our children's ministry programs. To get connected, contact Anne.Lowrance@covenantpresby.org.

Preschool Visit Days

It's almost time for a new school year. Parent and child visit days are Aug. 31 and Sept. 1. Welcome back families!

Interested in enrolling? You can schedule a tour with Kathie Grabert by calling 704-333-8658.

Middle School Youth

Reach director Perrin Tribble at perrin.tribble@covenantpresby.org or call 704-804-7569.

Weekly Schedule of Activities

Summer Sundays

Combined youth Sunday School class
9:30 to 10:30 a.m., Ed Wing 307

Sunday School (resumes Sept. 10)

9:30 to 10:30 a.m.
6th and 7th graders, EW 318
8th grade Quest, EW301

Wednesdays - Open Table at Covenant

Middle School Fellowship
6 to 7 p.m., EW318
Resumes Sept. 13

Week-by-Week Calendar

AUGUST

Wednesday, August 2 – Open Table Picnic
Sundays, August 6, 13, 20 – Continue Summer Sunday Schedule
Sunday, August 27 – Combined Youth Sunday School; PM
Welcome Party

SEPTEMBER

Sunday, September 3 – Last week of Summer Sunday Schedule
Wednesday, September 6 – Open Table Kickoff Night
Sunday, September 10 – Regular Sunday School Schedule



Save the Dates

Middle School-Wide Retreat: Saturday to Sunday, Oct. 7-8
Eighth Grade Quest Retreat: Friday to Sunday, Oct. 20-22



Youth kickoff celebrations

Sunday, August 27, 5:30 p.m.

Middle school: Pizza and ice cream sandwiches in the Fellowship Hall followed by a tie-dye party outside.

High school: Party at the home of Katherine and Andy Ball. All are welcome. Contact Levi for details!

High School Youth

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

Summer Sundays

Combined youth Sunday School class
9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Ed Wing 307

Sunday School (resumes Sept. 10)

9:30 to 10:30 a.m.
9th to 12th graders, EW307

Wednesdays - Open Table at Covenant

HSY Film + Theology
6 to 7 p.m., EW Theatre
Resumes Sept. 13

Week-by-Week Calendar

AUGUST

Wednesday, August 2 – Open Picnic Table on the Circle
Sundays, August 6, 13, 20 – Continue Summer Sunday Schedule



Sunday, August 27 – Combined Youth Sunday School; PM
Welcome Party

SEPTEMBER

Sunday, September 3 – Last week of Summer Sunday
Schedule

Wednesday, September 6 – Open Table Kickoff Night

Sunday, September 10 – Regular Sunday School Schedule

Wednesday, September 13 – Film + Theology kicks off

High School Fall Retreat - Montreat

Friday to Sunday, Oct. 20 to 22. Details TBA.

Welcome New Members

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



David Kelly



Allison Menius



Mary Lynn and Steve Larson and Daniel and Adam



Jackie and Jones Pharr and Mia and Elle



Daniel De La Pena & Emalyn

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.

Congregational Notes

Do you have announcements? Let Covenant know by contacting: Lucy.crain@covenantpresby.org.

Births

Congratulations to Sarah and Will Gaston (and big sister Alice) on the birth of their daughter, Jane Larkin Gaston, on May 26; and to Martha Ripple and Tom Kuklinski on the birth of their son, Lee Fisher Kuklinski, on June 16; and to Laura and Dan McCready (and older siblings Anna, Charlie and Oliver) on the birth of their daughter, Eleanor Christine McCready, on June 19; and to Jacy and Brannon Shaffer (and big brother Jack) on the birth of their daughter, Kate Abigail Shaffer, on June 23; and to Katherine & Jason Wallace (and older sister Charlotte) on the birth of their daughter, Brawley Elizabeth Wallace, on July 5.

Baptisms

Congratulations to Martha and Matt Allen, who presented their son, Elliott Richardson Allen, on May 21; and to

Katie and Matthew Snipes, who presented their son, Walter Ridgley Snipes, also on May 21; and to Heidi Kixmiller and Patrick Adell who presented their daughter, Amari Calloway Adell, on June 25; and to Garrett and Josh Morris who presented their daughter, Ellery Ann Morris, also on June 25.

In Memoriam

Dorothy Lausman Ball
Sept. 19, 1917 – June 11, 2017
Gloria D. Griner
April 30, 1928 – July 1, 2017
Ann Harris Welchman
October 6, 1931 – July 15, 2017

Weddings

Congratulations to Brittany Wurdeman and Michael Kleffner on their marriage on May 20 in the Covenant Sanctuary; and to Allyson Schriefer and Clark Easterling on their marriage on June 10 in the Covenant Chapel; and to

Kathleen Cap and Walter Brzozowicz on their marriage on June 11 at Folly Beach, SC; and to Erin Schroeder and Derek Nixon on their marriage on June 24 in the Covenant Chapel.

Deaths In The Church

The congregation extends its sincere sympathy and love to: Sarah Crowder and Bruce Buckley on the death of her stepmother, Peggy Ruth Phillips Crowder, of Charlotte on May 17; and to Clarkie and Mike Brown on the death of his father, Jeffrey Lee Brown of Perry, Ga., on May 25; and to Jane and Dean Jones on the death of her mother and to Tanner, Nate and Sarah Jones on the death of their grandmother, Janet Jeffries, on May 31; and to Trish and Ross Hobson on the death of his mother and to Helen and Ross Hobson on the death of their grandmother, Dorothy Luter Hobson, of Charlotte on June 25; and to

Susan, Marian, Cary & Tim Griner on the death of their mother, Gloria D. Griner of Charlotte on July 1; and to Libba & Mike Gaither on the death of his mother, Grace Williams Gaither on July 12; and to Bill Saunders on the death of his father, and to Jessica and Bishop on the death of their grandfather, Frank Saunders on July 13; and to Barry Welchman on the death of his wife; Claire and Brent Trexler on the death of her mother; Liz and Dave Welchman on the death of his mother; Charlie Trexler, Diana Trexler, Evan Welchman and Dylan Welchman on the death of their grandmother; Barret Trexler on the death of her great-grandmother; and Joyce and Charles Harris on the death of his sister, Ann Harris Welchman, and rejoices with them in the assurance of the resurrection.

New job for Evan Amo

Former Pastoral Resident will lead church in Locust, NC



Good news from a former staff member: Evan Amo will serve as temporary pastor at Locust Presbyterian Church, located in a rapidly growing town about 40 minutes east of Charlotte.

Evan completed a two-year pastoral residency at Covenant this past May, a role in which he oversaw local mission and outreach initiatives.

Evan will preach and lead worship weekly, moderate session meetings, offer pastoral care and lead Bible study. Evan and his wife, Lauren, will live in the church's beautiful manse.

Evan says he is excited for the blessings and challenges ahead. He knows the smaller, rural church will be much different than Covenant. But it's also an opportunity to encounter God in unexpected ways - for both Evan and the congregation.

Want to congratulate Evan? Send him a card at Evan Amo, Locust Presbyterian Church, 607 West Main St., Locust, NC 28097

New ways to contribute



Shop with Amazon Smile

1. Start your shopping at smile.amazon.com.
2. Type in Covenant Presbyterian Church as your charitable organization. (Be sure to pick the one in Charlotte).
3. Do your shopping as usual.
4. Amazon will automatically donate 0.5 percent of your purchases to Covenant.

Text to Give

1. Text the word "Help" to 704-312-7616, Covenant's designated number.
2. First-timer users will be prompted to register.
3. Text the word "Funds" for a list of options. Otherwise, your gift will go toward the general fund.



1000 East Morehead Street, Charlotte, NC 28204

USPS 005-405 is published monthly by: Covenant Presbyterian Church
1000 E. Morehead Street, Charlotte, NC 28204

Periodicals postage paid at Charlotte NC POSTMASTER

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PERIODICALS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 005405
CHARLOTTE, NC
28204



Preview the new line-up of small groups, programs and classes in the Fellowship Hall following worship services.

A fried chicken lunch begins at 11 a.m.

Visit the Ed Wing for an open house at 10:30 a.m. to see your child's new classroom and reconnect with friends.