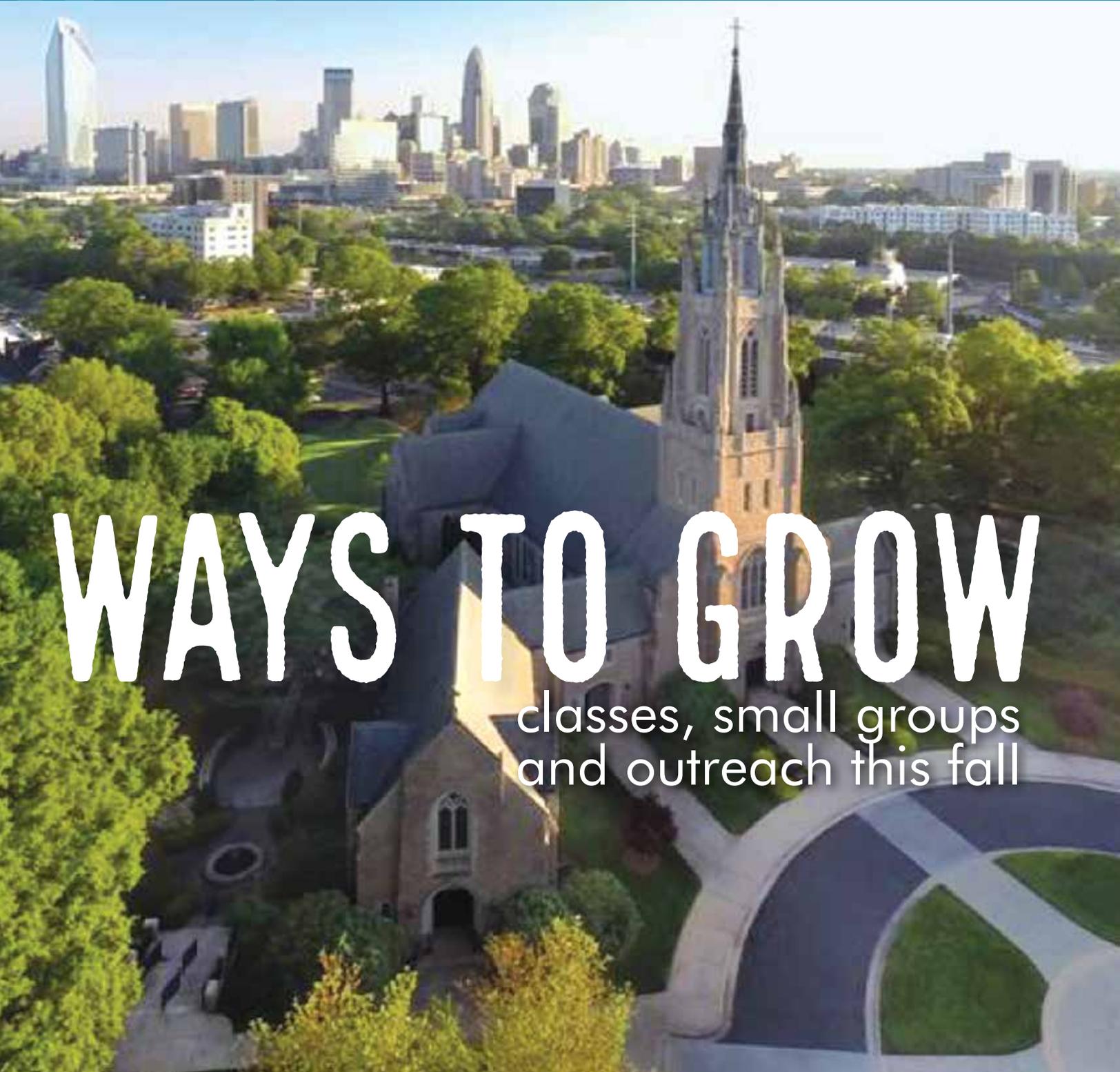


COVENANT *News*

A monthly publication of Covenant Presbyterian Church

Charlotte, North Carolina



WAYS TO GROW

classes, small groups
and outreach this fall

IN THIS ISSUE

4-5 Make plans for
Covenant Impacts
Charlotte

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Bible comes to
Covenant

Message from Bob

Dear friends,



Thank you for engaging in the exciting plans for our life and mission in the coming months. The Elders continue to lay the foundation for next year's capital campaign by organizing teams, developing budgets and timelines, and laying the other groundwork needed to do an excellent job. I'm grateful for your interest, suggestions, and patience.

In the meantime, we have many exciting endeavors in the coming weeks and months. We're planning for our largest ever Covenant Impacts Charlotte on Sunday, November 12. I hope you'll mark the date on your calendar and spend the afternoon with us across Charlotte as we "put feet and hands to faith" and demonstrate our commitment to our city. It's an excellent way to develop new friendships, make a difference in the world, and understand more about this thriving city in which we live.

It also gives me great pleasure to welcome Jason Graffis to the staff as our Contemporary Music and Arts Director. Jason comes to us from New Providence Presbyterian Church in Maryville, Tennessee near Knoxville. I invite you to take time to get to know Jason, and trust you will find him winsome, talented and spiritually grounded. I'm excited about all he brings and know you will make his transition to Covenant – and Charlotte – a joyful one.

So many other dynamic programs and happenings are outlined in the newsletter. Why not choose one and get involved? I'm confident you will be glad you did.

Warmly,

Bob

Session Digest

Recent Session Meeting Highlights

- Endorsed statement condemning racist ideology following the violence in Charlottesville. To read the statement, visit Covenantpresby.org and look under "News & Announcements."
- Heard a report from Jessica Patchett on travels during her recent sabbatical. See item at right.
- Endorsed Covenant member Ashlee Anderson as an Inquirer. Ashlee is studying at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Charlotte.

Financial Update

Pledge Receipts (Year to date through Aug. 31, 2017)

2017 Budgeted:.....\$1,628,600

2017 Actual:.....\$1,676,964

102.9% of Budget

Give Online at www.covenantpresby.org/give

Jessica reflects on sabbatical

Read Jessica's full reflection at Covenantpresby.org under the section called 'News & Announcements.'



I was in Trivandrum (India) in a bit of a stop-over. I went for a good run and sat down to consider the sunset on the Arabian Sea. A man named Joseph, one of the hotel staff members, came over to help me with my things. He asked how long I'd be staying. I told him I'd be leaving in the morning.

He said, "Well, God be with you. I will be praying for your safe travels." And, being that I was in Kerala, home to most of the Christian population of India and this man's name was Joseph, I very much assume this man was Christian. And that's never mattered much to me in my life, whether someone was Christian. If someone offers me a blessing, I'll take it, no matter what name they utter before they pray.

Earlier that week, I had received many blessings from Hindu priests, Jain temple attendants, Sikh worshipers, and Muslim pilgrims at a Sufi shrine. I cherished every single one and was reminded of how big and boundless God is and how generous people can be: I could go as far from home as humanly possible and find people willing to bless me, just because I was another human who showed up in their space.

Care and 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

Open discussion group will meet Oct. 12 at 11 a.m.

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 on second Thursdays every month in the Parlor.

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.



Rec Wing News

Barbecue and Bluegrass – Live Music & BBQ Food Truck

Sunday, Oct. 8 from 5 to 7 p.m.

We'll have live music, BBQ from Smokey J's BBQ Food Truck, and games for all ages in the Circle. Rain or shine. Cornhole, bocce ball, badminton, sidewalk chalk, early childhood games and more.



Youth Basketball Registration

Register by Oct. 6 to avoid a \$10 late fee! We welcome ages 5 to 18. Practices start the first full week of November with games to follow on Dec. 2. Register online at covenantpresby.org/connect/recreation-ministry or stop by the Rec Wing.

Nurse's Note

Mary.mattiacci@covenantpresby.org.

Dear ones,



Flu shots will be offered on two dates this fall—Wednesday, Oct. 4 from 4 to 7 p.m. in Room 203 of the Fellowship Hall and Sunday, Oct. 8 from 9 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. in Room 207 of the

Fellowship Hall.

Walk-ins are welcome. It is helpful to have your name and insurance information ahead of time to expedite paperwork. Send insurance information to mary.mattiacci@covenantpresby.org or drop off to the Parish Nurse in the main office or Rec Wing desk.



High dose vaccine for folks over 65 years old will be available. We can also offer the shingles vaccine (Zostavax) or pneumonia vaccine (Pneumovax). We will vaccinate folks over age 14. Medicare and most major insurances are accepted.

The flu vaccine is the best protection against the flu. Vaccination can reduce flu illnesses, doctor visits and missed work and school due to flu, as well as prevent flu-related hospitalizations and deaths. If you don't get yours at church, please get it somewhere! Let me know if you have any questions.

Take care,

Mary

Covenant Impacts Charlotte:

Day at a glance – Sunday, Nov. 12

After worshipping as a unified church and gathering together for lunch, we will fan out across Charlotte to serve our mission partners.

How to sign up:

- 1) Complete the form that you will soon receive in the mail and return it to the offering plate or church office.
- 2) Visit Covenantpresby.org and click the big Covenant Impacts Charlotte image.

FOCUS AREA: Food Access

Roughly 90,000 county residents have few food options because no grocery stores are in their communities. Small neighborhood stores tend to sell foods with fat and sodium.

Loaves and Fishes: Provides a week of food to those in short-term food crisis in Mecklenburg County.

Friendship Trays: Delivers healthy meals to elderly and community members in need.

Friendship Gardens: Supplies uptown and the Transit Center with a location to purchase fresh vegetables.

Urban Ministry Center: Seeks to provide housing and services through interfaith collaboration.

FOCUS AREA: Affordable Housing

You may have heard about Covenant's plans to invest in an affordable housing development off Freedom Drive. The fundraising effort begins in January - but we don't have to wait until then to make an impact.

Charlotte Family Housing: Empowers families to achieve long-term self-sufficiency.

Supportive Housing Communities: Focuses on veterans and those with mental illness and substance abuse issues.

Hope Haven: Teaches life skills for chemically dependent adults and families within a residential environment.

Room in the Inn: Offers shelter and hospitality to those experiencing homelessness.

Young Adults Upcoming Events

Join us at any time. Get connected: jen.christianson@covenantpresby.org

YA Theology on Draft

Thursday, Oct. 19, 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Tyber Creek Pub

Conversation over food and drink, this time tackling the topic of money, and how faith informs our approach to it.

YA Women's Group

1st Tuesdays in FH201, 3rd Tuesdays in various locations, 7 to 8 p.m.

Join Eleanor Sojka, Ashley Holland, Ally Hunter and Sarah Lipsey for conversations and outings.

YA Book Club (at Amelie's Park Road)

Tuesday, Oct. 10, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

*Join us to discuss *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead.*

YA Men's Group - Devotions & Drafts

1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 7 to 8 p.m.

Join John Lipsey and Austin Flynn for good conversation at Dilworth Grille.

First Sunday Brunch Socials

First Sunday of every month at noon
Join us at Kid Cashew on East Boulevard on Oct. 1.



A day of service to our city

Meet our partner non-profits and consider joining a focus area

FOCUS AREA: Children & Education

In lower-income communities, families struggle to afford day care, students lack the resources that robust parent-teacher organizations can provide, and teachers face the additional challenge of providing school supplies.

Highland Renaissance Academy: Serves CMS students from high-poverty backgrounds.

Epiphany School: Works for social and academic success for children with communication challenges.

Charlotte Bilingual Preschool: Prepares Spanish-speaking children for success in Kindergarten and beyond.

The Learning Collaborative: Provides transportation, meals, speech and literacy in Grier Heights neighborhood.

Urban Promise: Provides youth with spiritual, academic and social development to become leaders.

Classroom Central: Offers free school supplies for 100,000 students and teachers across six school districts.

A Child's Place: Works with public schools to identify, enroll and work with children and families in crisis.

Amani Children's Foundation: Serves children in Africa orphaned by AIDS and poverty.



CAN'T MAKE IT ON NOV. 12? CONTRIBUTE ITEMS IN ADVANCE

- Travel size toiletry items
- Gently used books for students of all ages
- Food drive items - canned fruit, pasta, cereal, 100% juice
- Towels, twin sheets and pillow cases

Bring to church offices during business hours

Fall *Worship* Schedule

8:45 a.m. Chapel

An intimate, meditative worship experience. Rev. Bob Henderson preaches two Sundays per month, complemented by associate ministers and residents.

9:30 a.m. Contemporary

A Sanctuary service featuring a worship team of instrumentalists and singers as well as a sermon by the week's preaching minister.

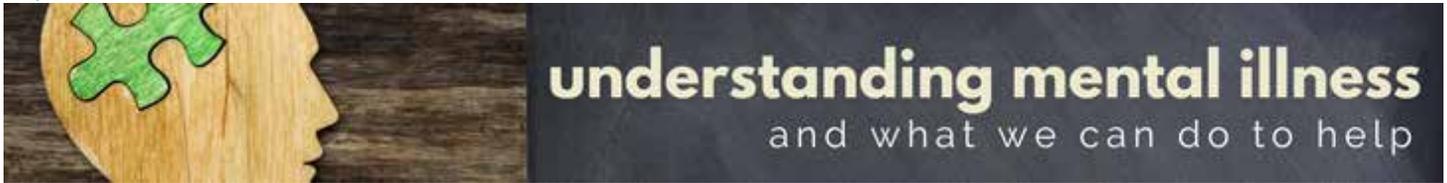
11 a.m. Traditional

A Sanctuary service with the full Covenant Choir, accompanied by orchestral musicians on special occasions.

11 a.m. Contemporary

Come as you are for a service in the Fellowship Hall that blends Americana-style music, a message and talk-back opportunity.





Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m., Oct. 25-Nov. 15 Fellowship Hall (Main)

Each diagnosis of a mental illness gives the church family opportunities to love and support those who are suffering. Whether from lack of knowledge or fear of the unknown, we too often miss chances to assist people on this path.

It is time to bring mental illness awareness into the pews. Join us for a series at Covenant that also welcomes friends from First Presbyterian and Myers Park Presbyterian.

Oct. 25: One Woman's Story About Living With Mental Illness
Through sharing her own story, Beth Purdy works to reduce the stigma surrounding mental illness. Beth's message is informative, honest and, most of all, filled with hope.

Nov. 1: Mental illness as a disease of the brain Kevin Marra, MD, Hopeway's Director of Medical Services, explains symptoms, diagnosis and treatments of specific disorders.

Nov. 8: The Need for Early Mental Illness Detection in Adolescents and Teens Dr. Bradley Reddick of Eastover Psychological Group discusses the need for early intervention. Fifty percent of all mental disorders develop before age 14. How can we distinguish between "normal" teenage behavior and early symptoms of mental illness in our children?

Nov. 15: Navigating Mental Health Care in Charlotte Martha Whitecotton, from Behavioral Health at CHS, helps us understand how to seek treatment options available in the Charlotte area.

Last two sessions: Power of Early Education Fellowship Hall 207

Future success is determined *before* a young person even begins Kindergarten. What does it take to prepare?

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.



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

Wednesday Vespers in the Chapel

6:30 p.m. every week



Join Grady Moseley, Martha Isaacs and Anna Rainey Dickson for spiritual disciplines helpful in seeking God - and being attentive to God seeking us. All are welcome.

A New Reformation? Wednesdays, Oct. 25-Nov. 15 at 6:30 in FH203 Are big changes happening in Church and culture as seismic as those 500 years ago?

The team at In Christ Supporting Ministries (Sarah Kromer, Dee Smart, Merwyn Johnson) will address this question in four sessions hosted by Covenant pastors.

Oct. 25: What's unique about the social and spiritual sea changes we're experiencing now?

Nov. 1: What's the enduring center of our faith tradition that we'll carry with us?

Nov. 8: What biblical and spiritual resources do we have for navigating our way forward?

Nov. 15: What might define the church's role and identity in culture in the days ahead?



wednesday night series

A NEW REFORMATION?

christianity in a changing culture

Covenant names five Elder Emeriti

Individuals recognized for many years of service

Congratulations to the following individuals named by the congregation as Elder Emeriti.

Any Elder who has faithfully served three full terms or at least nine years at Covenant and has reached the age of 70 is eligible for this distinction.



Herb Harriss

Herb was ordained as an elder in 1978 (back when terms were six years). He has served as Youth Fellowship Leader, committee chair, chaperone, elder friend and long-time basketball coach. He also served on the Planning and Evaluation Board as a member and chairman.



Suzanne Mecum

Suzanne was ordained as an elder in 1985. She has taught Sunday School classes and served as Treasurer. She also served on a Pastor Nominating Committee. She was Clerk of Session and interim church administrator.



Jim Barnhardt Jr.

Jim was ordained as an elder in 1974. He served on the Early Childhood Education and Finance committees. He also participated in two mission trips to Mississippi and worked on a number of Habitat build projects.



Gale Pendergraph

Gale was ordained as an elder in 1982. He has sung in the Covenant Choir for 47 years as First Tenor. He served as Clerk of Session and on two Pastor Nominating Committees. Gale was a delegate to three General Assemblies and chaired the communion team that

served 10,000 GA members in Charlotte.



Carolyn Renner

Carolyn was ordained as an elder in 1993. She served as a Youth Advisor for many years. She also served on committees including Music, Property, Elder Nominating and Volunteer Ministries.

Carolyn has been a Chapel Choir partner, Quest Elder Friend, SMART trips director and Mexico mission trip traveler. Currently, Carolyn is involved with TLC planning. She has been a Stephen Minister for more than 20 years and continues to serve on the Sanctuary Guild.

Special Engagement

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
- 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.



TLC Upcoming Events

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

A conversation with Kathy Izard Author of 'The Hundred Story Home'

Kathy Izard realized that her work at the community soup kitchen would not solve the larger needs of Charlotte's homeless population. Find out what Kathy decided to do. *Wednesday, Oct. 11. Snacks at 10:30 a.m. with program at 11 in Ed Wing Room 201*

Bonus news: TLC has purchased five Welcome Home Kits to help neighbors with basic items as they move to permanent housing. It's a partnership with Urban Ministry Center.

A road trip to Forest City Enjoy lunch and a car museum tour

We'll travel to Forest City for a tour of the Bennett Classics Antique Car Museum and lunch at Ellie Mae's Tavern. *Wednesday, Oct. 25. We'll leave at 9 a.m. and return around 4 p.m. RSVP by Oct. 18. An \$8 check to Covenant reserves your spot.*



Get Connected with Adult Small Groups

Here's a look at small groups embarking on new seasons.

During the Week

Uptown Bible Study

Tuesdays at noon

A diverse group led by Jessica Patchett meets for lunch at Foundation for the Carolinas.

Tuesday Lunch Group

Tuesdays at 12:30 p.m. in FH Library
Adults talk on Scripture, ideas.

Women's Small Group Bible Study

Thursdays 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in Parlor
Newcomers from diverse faith journeys are welcome. Led by Lucy Crain.

South Park Bible Study on Genesis

Thursdays at noon, Union Seminary Room 201
Explore creation's origins.

Thursday Lunch Bible Study on Genesis

Noon in FH Library
New group led by Anne McQuiston & Jen Christianson.

On Sundays

Men's Bible Study

8:30 a.m. in FH205
Men interested in faith and conversation.
Led by Andy Ball, Drew Quartapella and Paul Steffens

Fellowship Class

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in FH203
Adults 60+ with weekly conversation topics

Open Door

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in FH201
A diverse gathering of adults; great for newcomers

People Class

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in FH Library
Adults who enjoy vigorous dialogue on many topics

Foundations

Sundays at 10:45 a.m. in FH205
A small group for parents of young children

Sunday Evening Young Adult Women's Small Group

6 p.m. beginning Sept. 17
Women in our late 20s and 30s who gather for friendship in members' homes.
Led by Jessica Patchett.

Sign up for Sunday morning classes & weekday small groups: covenantpresby.org/smallgroups

St. John's Bible comes to Covenant Wednesday, Oct. 18 in Library

See a hand-written, hand-illuminated Bible – the first of this monumental size to be commissioned by a Benedictine monastery in more than 500 years.

When: Stop by any time between 4 and 7:30 p.m.

No RSVP necessary.



Sisters in Spirit Breakfasts Tuesday, Oct. 10 in Fellowship Hall

Oct. 10 – Sabrina Gilchrist with *Right Moves for Youth* (right);

Nov. 14 – Covenant member Kim Moseley on *Finding Balance*

When: Breakfast and programs from 7 to 8 a.m.

RSVP: Send an email to reservations@covenantpresby.org.



First *Sunday Talks*

Sunday, October 1: Imam Atif from the Islamic Society of Greater Charlotte on "What I Love Most About Being Muslim"

Imam Atif teaches several classes, focuses on community building and gives lectures on Islamic topics.

Imam Atif will speak at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

A special invitation on Friday, Oct. 6 at 1:15 p.m.

Covenant members are invited to attend the Friday Jumah service at the Islamic Society of Greater Charlotte. Expect a sermon in English, prayers in Arabic and a chance to talk with Imam Atif. For questions, contact Erin.williams@covenantpresby.org.



Covenant Kids Education



New! Covenant/Renguti School Pen

Pals: On World Communion Sunday (Oct. 1), Elementary Sunday School classes will begin a pen pal exchange with students of Renguti School in Kenya, a Covenant mission partner.

Letters will be mailed to Lucy Wambua, school director. We look forward to new friendships between our communities!

Sunday School

9:30 a.m., Education Wing
Ages 2-5/K on first floor
Grades 2-5 on second floor

All children are encouraged to attend worship – establishing this holy habit is vital to the development of a child's spiritual life. Parents may opt to take children to child care following a time with young disciples. At 11 a.m., child care with music and story time is offered for all children on first floor.

Preschool Parent Workshop

Childhood is not a NASCAR event. Cathie Brooks speaks to parents on Friday, Oct. 20 from 11 a.m. to 12:25 p.m.

Sunday afternoons

4-4:45 p.m. Angelus Choir EW201
4:45-5:30 p.m. Choristers EW 201

Anne and Mollie will lead children's activities for those in Angelus and Choristers who are waiting while the other choir rehearses. Games, kids yoga or reading. Meet in EW207.

Open Table Wednesday nights

Childcare for infants-K is available from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Young Scholars, an elementary age Bible study, meets from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in EW218. Activities for young children are provided 6 to 6:20 p.m. - look for volunteer with shepherd's crook in back of Fellowship Hall!

Save the Dates

3rd Grade Bible Lock-In

Friday-Saturday, Nov. 17-18
More details to come!

3rd Grade Bible Presentation

Sunday, Nov. 19, 11 a.m. Sanctuary

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

Youth (Grades 6-12)

Education Wing, 9:30 a.m.

Base/6th & 7th Grades EW318
Quest/8th Grade EW312
PEAK/9th-12th Grades EW207

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.

Millennials

FH105

A class for (self-defined!) Young Adults

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.

The Fellowship Class

FH203

Largely adults 60+, but open to adults of all ages.

Sun. PM Women (6 p.m.)

Various

Women in our late 20s and 30s meet for fellowship.



Middle School Youth

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

Weekly Schedule of Activities

Sunday School

Explore bold new ways to live out Scripture in our daily lives.

9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

6th and 7th graders, EW318

8th grade Quest, EW312

Sunday Nights

We play fun games, learn about spiritual disciplines and pursue service opportunities.

Dinner is 5:30 to 6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall Program to follow; locations vary; pick up in Circle at 7 p.m.

Wednesday Nights - Open Table

Join us for dinner followed by games and recreation in the Gym.

5:30 to 6:30 p.m., Dinner in Fellowship Hall

6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Gym Night in Rec Wing

Upcoming Highlights

MSY-Wide Fall Retreat – Base & Quest, Grades 6-8

October 7-8, 2017; Camp Canaan, Rock Hill, SC

A special overnight retreat to play and pray together! This first retreat of the year is a great opportunity for meaningful bonding time – both spiritually and socially.

MSY Crowders Mountain Hike

Sunday, October 15

Gather in the Rec Wing after 11 a.m. worship for a light sub lunch before heading off to Crowders Mountain.

Quest Fall Retreat – Quest, Grade 8

October 20-22, 2017; Montreat, NC

We will explore the beautiful creation around us, building community, and learning more behind the idea of creating sacred space in our lives.



High School Youth

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

Weekly Schedule of Activities

Sunday School

Explore bold new ways to live out Scripture in our daily lives.

9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

9th to 12th graders, EW307

Sunday Nights

We gather for dinner with MSY and then separate for an hour of programming, ranging from service to recreation.

Dinner is 5:30 to 6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Program to follow; locations vary; pick up in Circle at 7 p.m.

Wednesday Nights - Open Table

Join us for Film + Theology to explore Christian themes in popular movies

5:30 to 6:30 p.m., Dinner in Fellowship Hall

6:30 to 7:30 p.m., EW Theatre

Upcoming Highlights

Fall Retreat – PEAK Grades 9-12

Oct. 20-22 in Montreat

We'll explore our faith in the mountains of Montreat. Over the weekend, we'll spend time outside in God's creation as well as explore spiritual disciplines. We will also begin to prepare for Youth Sunday in the spring. Feel God's presence as we are in fellowship with each other.

Be a volunteer

We need chaperones, guest leaders and more. Contact Levi to learn how we can use your talents.

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.

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



Learn about Covenant and our mission on Sunday, Oct. 1 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Join us for a catered dinner and Q&A with Senior Minister Bob Henderson. Child care is available. Feel free to bring children. Get connected: Lora.borrelli@covenantpresby.org

Fellowship on the Circle - Every Sunday



Congregational Notes

*Do you have announcements?
Let Covenant know by contacting:
Leslie.ford@covenantpresby.org.*

Baptisms

Megan and Mike Comer presented their daughter, Emily Kate Comer, on September 24; Lauren and Will McConnell presented their daughter, Olivia Paige McConnell, on September 24.

Weddings

Congratulations to Antonina and Levi Flair who celebrated the occasion of their marriage in the Covenant Sanctuary on September 9; and to

Kaitlin Powers and Michael Coletta who celebrated the occasion of their marriage in the Covenant Sanctuary on September 16.

In Memoriam

Dwight W. Boyer
May 12, 1936-September 4, 2017

Jean Casterton Bulette Boggs
Elder
April 27, 1923 – September 12, 2017

Deaths In The Church

The congregation extends its sincere sympathy and love to:

Emily Reinicker on the death of her stepmother, Marilyn Charles Godbold of Florence, SC on September 3; and to

Kathie and William Grabert on the death of her mother, Julia Collins Flanagan of Easton, MD, on September 9; and to

LaDonna Boyer on the death of her husband, Caroline and Bryan Hosseini, Jon Williams, and Dwight Boyer Jr. on the death of their father/stepfather, and Sami and Cyrus Hosseini on the death of their grandfather, Dwight Boyer on September 4; and to the family of Jean Boggs; and rejoices with them all in the assurance of the resurrection.

Staff News

Welcome, Jason Graffis

Jason will lead contemporary music and arts



Jason Graffis will join the staff Oct. 1 as Director of Contemporary Worship and Arts.

Jason has served for six years as Worship Coordinator at New Providence Presbyterian

Church in Maryville, Tenn. In this role, Jason arranges musical selections, leads rehearsals and plays in the worship band for the church's non-traditional service, called First Light.

A skilled vocalist, pianist and guitarist, Jason was drawn to music at a young age: "Some of my earliest memories are of sitting next to my grandfather at FPC Ocala and hearing him sing bass...These memories instilled in me a love and appreciation for reformed worship."

Traditional music update

Team of musicians will lead program on interim basis

During the search for a permanent director, Rob Dicks, our assistant music director, will continue to select arrangements and play the organ. Rob will also oversee the adult bells program.

Quinton Busch will assist Rob in directing the Covenant Choir on an interim basis. Ryan Harrison will work with the Youth Chorale, also on an interim basis. McKenzie Coleman joins us as Assistant Children's Choir Director and, in the interim period, will direct our Angelus (grades K-2) and Chorister (grades 3-5) choirs.

Afternoon/Friday receptionist

Best wishes to Ashley Stowe

Cindy Friday will begin Oct. 3 as Afternoon/Friday Receptionist. Cindy held the role for 4 ½ years until moving in February 2014. She has moved back and is very excited to join us again.

Cindy succeeds Ashley Stowe, who says: "It has been a blessing to work at the church that I grew up in, surrounded by so many amazing and supportive people. I am happy to take the lessons I've learned here forward with me, as I move on to the next chapter of my life." We will miss Ashley and wish her well.



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