

COVENANT NEWS

VOL. XXX II

No. 4

Weeks of February 16 & 23, 2020

A Publication of

Covenant Baptist Church

3131 Erskine Drive, Gastonia, NC 28054

OPPORTUNITIES – Week of February 16, 2020

Sunday, February 16

9:30 am Coffee Fellowship
 9:45 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship Service
 6:00 pm Youth Activities

Monday, February 17

6:30 pm Diaconate Meeting
 7:30 pm Handbells

Tuesday, February 18

8:20 – 11:45 am CBS Leadership Team Meeting

Wednesday, February 19

5:30 – 6:00 pm Children's Missions
 5:45 pm Fellowship Meal
 6:20 – 7:15 pm Youth Hang
 6:25 – 7:00 pm Children's Music
 6:30 pm Prayer & Bible Study
 7:15 pm Sanctuary Choir

OPPORTUNITIES – Week of February 23, 2020

Sunday, February 23

9:30 am Coffee Fellowship
 9:45 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship Service
 Youth – Lunch Together

Monday, February 24

7:00 pm Handbells

Tuesday, February 25

8:20 – 12:30 pm CBS Leadership Team Meeting
 9:00 am Speeders – Grits N Greens

Wednesday, February 26

5:30 – 6:00 pm Children's Missions
 5:45 pm Fellowship Meal
 6:20 – 7:15 pm Youth Hang
 6:25 – 7:00 pm Children's Music
 6:30 pm Prayer & Bible Study
 7:15 pm Sanctuary Choir

FEBRUARY

DEACON

Dot Ballenger

BUILDING LOCK-UP

Wayne Ballenger

USHERS

Koinonia Class

NURSERY

Nancy Beauchamp
 Sue Capps

PRESCHOOL

Glenda Norris
 Doris Ray

Feb 16

Feb 23

UPCOMING NEWSLETTER
 MARCH 1 & 8



Rev. Chris Hensley, Pastor
 Rev. Nick Clanton, Minister of Youth
 Gene Bumgardner, Director of Music
 Becky Bumgardner, Pianist
 Jerry Fulham, Organist
 Lynn Barker, Director of Preschool & Children
 Debra Sayles, Church Secretary
debra@covenantbaptist.net
 704-865-2538 www.covenantbaptist.net

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday - 8:00am - 5:15pm
 Friday - 8:00am - 1:00pm

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

*"Look to the LORD and His strength; seek His face
 always."*
 – 1 Chronicles 16:11 NIV

Linda Bess
 Wanda McCraw
 Art Morgan

(Gardner Park First-Grade Student (Leukemia) & Teacher)

GIFTS HAVE BEEN GIVEN

In Memory of Norman Paschall

(Betty Ammons Brother)

General Fund Wayne and Glenda Norris
 General Fund Bill & Barbara Walters
 Church Van George & Linda Pettigrew



WELCOME

To our newest member
Faith Jacobs



WELCOME!

Lynn Barker as Covenant's
 Director of Preschool
 and Children



John 8:12-20

Jesus declares, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.” (8:12b NRSV) This is one of several “I am” statements that Jesus makes in the Gospel of John, though this one is not a direct call back to God’s naming of God’s self in Exodus at the burning bush with Moses. Jesus sets the example of being a light in darkness. Most recently on Sunday morning we read together Matthew 5:13-20 which begins with Jesus teaching his disciples to be salt and light in this world. To stand out and be different, to serve as agents of peace, love, mercy, and grace in a world dominated by fear, mistrust, hatred, and cruelty.

How has your week gone? In what ways have you served as a light in this dark world? In what ways could you have served as a light but did not? Do not fret over missed opportunities, instead allow them to be opportunities of growth and learning and resolve to be the light next time.

As we prepare to enter the season of Lent, a time of reflection and deep spiritual preparation for the coming celebration of Easter, be encouraged to reread the Gospel of John. Pay close attention to the moments when Jesus makes an “I am” statement. Reflect on your life and consider why it is that you might need the Light of the world shining in your life.

Your brother in Christ,
Pastor Chris

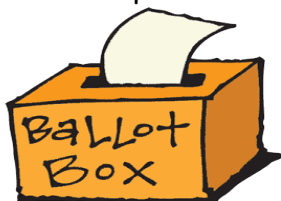
Covenant Church family,

It is with much excitement that I am able to announce that Jessica Greer Lanning is coming to speak on Sunday, February 23, for the Martha Stearns Marshall Baptist Women in Ministry Month of Preaching. Jessica received her education from Gardner-Webb University and pursued a MBA following her undergraduate training. She currently attends Central Baptist Church in Spruce Pine where she has already spoken for her current church home. While not in the full-time ministry as a vocation, Jessica is devoted to Christ and has a passion for the Church. We are excited to welcome both she and her family later this month.

Pastor Chris

NOMINATING COMMITTEE BALLOTS

Nominating Committee ballots will be distributed Sunday, February 23. These are to be returned to the church by 11:00am, Sunday, March 15. Ballot box provided in the narthex.



REMINDERS

- **Inclement Weather** – Check WBTV, WSOC, WCNC or WHKY, or call your Deacon.
- **Flower Calendar** - If you would like to place flowers for worship, choose your date, sign the hallway calendar, call or email Sue Puckett or Jennifer Tarkington, and also call or email Debra with the date and wording to be included in the bulletin.

As we look ahead to the month of February, I wanted to share the scripture passages for the remaining Sundays of the month. If you cannot be with us for whatever reason, you will have the chance to at least read over the passages that we will reflect on and study together each Sunday morning. Take a moment and read the passages and consider what God is saying to you based on the two reading(s), what God may have been saying to the original audience, and why they are still relevant for us today.

Your brother in Christ,
Pastor Chris



Feb. 16 – Deuteronomy 30:15-20 & Matthew 5:21-37

Feb. 23 – Matthew 17:1-9

Feb. 26 – Ash Wednesday – 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10 & Psalm 51:1-17



Many thanks to those who helped make another Souper Bowl of Caring the success story it has been for many years.

Our prep team on Saturday consisted of Becky & Gene Bumgardner, Jacob & Joshua Sells, Cameron Harrell, Glenda Norris and Gail White.

Our awesome Fellowship Decorating crew led by Sue Puckett and including Art Morgan, Jennifer Tarkington and Doris Ray.

Our dessert makers were Gayla Green, Joan Lanier and Debbie Strider.

Our Sunday Lunch helpers were Mike Grooms, Glenda Norris, Debbie Strider & Brenda White.

It takes a lot of hands to make this a successful event. From Mission Action Council and those in our community who need help with food, thank all of you for staying, enjoying the lunch and fellowship and giving to this effort.

Brenda White

Mission Action Council

WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP MEAL

5:45 pm Adults — \$4.00

Grades 1-5 — \$1.50 Preschool-Kindergarten — Free

Please call before noon on Tuesday of each week to cancel, or to reserve your meal. This enables us to have enough food without over-spending.



February 19
Meat Loaf



February 26
Grilled Chicken



MISSION ACTION COUNCIL

PROJECT FOR FEBRUARY AND MARCH

Donations to support Community Ministries



Shampoo
Dishwashing Liquid
Toothpaste – Regular Size

Donation Box located in Narthex

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



We need volunteers to provide a snack supper for the youth on Sunday evenings at 6 PM. Your options include bringing something to the church, inviting them into your home or making a monetary donation. Sign-up sheets are available beside the church office and in the educational building.

Moving from the Pew to the Pulpit

Sunday, February 16 from 4pm-6pm
Unity Baptist Church
482 N. Myrtle School Rd



Come hear Dwayne Burks as he gives a presentation on community engagement. If interested, please see Pastor Chris.

UPDATED REQUESTS FOR THE LITTLE FREE PANTRY

Food items to stock the Little Free Pantry are running low. Please donate the following items.
Donation Container Located in the Fellowship Hall.



SMALL CANS OF BEENEE WEENEES (pop top lids)

CANNED VEGETABLES

SMALL JARS OF PEANUT BUTTER (creamy)

SNACK CRACKERS (individually wrapped)

CANS OF CHEF BOYARDEE ITEMS --- SMALL AND LARGE SIZES (pop top lids)

CANNED CHICKEN & TUNA (pop top lids)

