

# COVENANT NEWS

VOL. XXX II

No. 2

Weeks of January 19 and 26, 2020

A Publication of  
Covenant Baptist Church  
3131 Erskine Drive, Gastonia, NC 28054



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

## OPPORTUNITIES – Week of January 19, 2020

### Sunday, January 19

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

### Monday, January 20

Martin Luther King Day – No School  
6:30 pm Diaconate Meeting

### Tuesday, January 21

8:20 – 11:45 am CBS Leadership Team Meeting  
6:30 pm Church Council Meeting Alpha Classroom

### Wednesday, January 22

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

## OPPORTUNITIES – Week of January 26, 2020

### Sunday, January 26

9:30 am Coffee Fellowship  
9:45 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Worship Service  
Youth - Lunch together following Worship

### Tuesday, January 28

8:20 – 11:45 am CBS Leadership Team Meeting  
9:00 am Speeders – Grits N Greens

### Wednesday, January 29

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

## OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

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

Linda Bess Art Morgan  
Wanda McCraw Linda Pettigrew  
(Gardner Park First-Grade Student (Leukemia) & Teacher)  
(Norman Pascal - Betty Ammons Brother)

## Recycled Card Collection

Christmas cards are being collected again this year for a Honduras Mission project for children. A basket will be available in the Narthex to receive your cards. What better way to recycle Christmas cards!



## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2

The Souper Bowl of Caring is a great way to enjoy a meal with your church family and to help fight hunger and poverty in the local community. Make plans to have lunch at Covenant following our morning worship February 2 and provide a donation that will help a local agency stock food for those in need.

JANUARY		
DEACON	BUILDING LOCK-UP	USHERS
George Pettigrew	Trudy Shuford	Alpha Class
FEBRUARY		
DEACON	BUILDING LOCK-UP	USHERS
Dot Ballenger	Wayne Ballenger	Koinonia Class
NURSERY		PRESCHOOL
Jan 19	Robin & Leeann Jacobs	Leeann Jacobs
Jan 26	Renee & Tony Phillips	Cathy Brooks & Assistant

**UPCOMING NEWSLETTER**  
**FEBRUARY 2 & 9**

## A Word from the Pastor

Covenant Family,

We have begun yet another new year, more than that, a new decade. It appears we live, still as apparently always, in tumultuous times. Already we have seen continued escalation of tensions in the Middle East, blazing fires consuming the entire continent of Australia, and continued talk of impeaching our current president, to name a handful of things dominating our newsfeeds and news media and doesn't even touch on the more immediate and pressing concerns that weigh heavily on our minds because they directly affect us and our loved ones. It seems that this new decade has stumbled out of the gate and we are in for more of the same troubles, anxieties, and strife. Hope for relief seems slim.

Hope, though, is not lost nor defeated as we who are Christians look to Christ. The Gospel reading for today (January 15) cites a passage from Isaiah in reference to Jesus Christ, it says:

“Here is my servant, whom I have chosen, my beloved, with whom my soul is well pleased. I will put my Spirit upon him, and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles.  
He will not wrangle or cry aloud, nor will anyone hear his voice in the streets.  
He will not break a bruised reed or quench a smoldering wick until he brings justice to victory.  
And in his name the Gentiles will hope.”

– Matthew 12:18-21 (NRSV)

I'll grant that it is difficult to find hope when every source of our media is saturated in bad news, conflict, and talking heads screaming at one another; and social media is perhaps worse. However, when we ground ourselves in our faith in Jesus the Christ of God, holding fast to the hope of the Christmas season, memories of which are still fresh in our minds, we have reason to hope beyond all of the conflict, crises, and disasters. Be encouraged to rest in the hope of Christ, that one day all these things that consume us in the here and now will be forgotten. For the time being, strive to be agents of hope in the here and now, exercising love, patience, kindness, and gentleness to others, even, and perhaps especially, those with whom you disagree.

Your Brother in Christ,  
Pastor Chris

### 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.

### GIFTS HAVE BEEN GIVEN

*In Memory of Mrs. Margaret McCuen  
(Ken McCuen's Mother)*

General Fund	Wayne & Glenda Norris
General Fund	Anne Tate
General Fund	Bill & Barbara Walters



### 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.**

#### JANUARY 22 MENU

Kyle Fletcher's BBQ  
Corn Dogs for the children  
Dessert & Beverage



#### JANUARY 29 MENU

Salmon Patties, Pinto Beans  
& Cold Slaw  
Fish Sticks for the children  
Dessert & Beverage



### 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)**  
**SMALL JARS OF PEANUT BUTTER (creamy)**  
**CANS OF CHEF BOYARDEE ITEMS --- SMALL AND LARGE SIZES (pop top lids)**  
**CANNED CHICKEN & TUNA (pop top lids)**  
**SNACK CRACKERS (individually wrapped)**  
**CANNED VEGETABLES**

