

# COVENANT NEWS

VOL. XXX

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Week of April 8, 2018

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



Rev. Dan Freeman, Intentional Interim Pastor  
Rev. Pamela Phillips, Minister of Preschool and Children  
Rev. Nick Clanton, Minister of Youth  
Gene and Becky Bumgardner, Co-Directors of Music  
Becky Bumgardner, Pianist  
Jerry Fulham, Organist  
Sharon Waters, Church Secretary  
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## OPPORTUNITIES – Week of April 8, 2018

### Sunday, April 8

9:30 am Coffee Fellowship  
9:45 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Worship Service  
Called Church Conference to Follow  
6:00 pm Youth Activities

### Tuesday, April 10

8:15 – 11:30 am CBS Leadership Team Meeting  
9:00 am Speeders – Firestone Grill  
7:00 pm Church Council Meeting  
Alpha Class

### Wednesday, April 11

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

## VOLUNTEERS

	BABIES & TODDLERS	PRESCHOOL
APR 8	Renee & Hannah Phillips	Susan Herd & Dianne Duncan
APR 15	Livvie Richard & Linda Pettigrew	Libby & Meredith McCraw
APR 22	Robin & Leeann Jacobs	Pam Phillips & Assistant
APR 29	Renee & Hannah Phillips	Susan Herd & Dianne Duncan

## APRIL

DEACON	BUILDING LOCK-UP	USHERS
Wayne Ballenger	James Hall	Koinonia Class

## Wednesday Fellowship Meal – April 11

Adults – Stew Beef over Rice, Broccoli Casserole, Bread, Dessert, Beverage	Children – Chicken Nuggets
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## OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

**“Look to the LORD and His strength; Seek his face always.” I Chronicles 16:11 NIV**  
Pam Buckner (Salvation for a Mother)  
(Dennis Clark, Becky Bumgardner’s cousin)  
(Regina Elmore, Linda Bess’ sister)  
(Mary Kerley) (Charlain Fitzgerald)  
(Lena Marston – 4 years old – Cancer)  
Betty Ammons, Friend of Family)  
(Larry Marshall) (Ernie Smith)  
(Jerry Moss, Gayle Beam’s brother)

*Appreciation Fellowship for  
Rev. Dan and Judy  
Sunday, April 15*



*Covered-dish Luncheon  
(provided by the church)  
Following Worship*

*Meet & Greet  
Chris, Amanda, and Daniel*

*Saturday, April 7 2:00 – 4:00 pm*

*Fellowship & Snacks*



*Chris will be speaking Sunday, April 8.*

## MAKE A NOTE

You won't want to miss the next two Sundays at Covenant Baptist. On Sunday, April 8, a potential pastor will "preach" the sermon. Then afterwards members will vote in a called business conference. (Chris and his family will be at Covenant on April 7 for a meet and greet from 2-4 pm).



If the result of the vote is to call Chris to become our pastor, then the next Sunday, April 15, will be Dan and Judy Freeman's last Sunday with us. We have learned a lot and have grown a lot as individuals and a congregation under Dan's leadership over the past many months. On April 15, following the worship service, we will all have lunch (provided by the church) in the Fellowship Hall. Don't miss your opportunity by your presence to thank Dan and Judy for their service, guidance, wisdom, humor, and friendship (as well as the short but most meaningful sermons).

### GGBA COMMUNITY MINISTRIES NEEDS FOR APRIL – JUNE

#### *Meat and Cereal*



### MISSION ACTION COUNCIL PROJECT FOR MARCH & APRIL

We are collecting hygiene items for patients of the Rosewood Nursing Home. You may place your items in the basket located in the narthex. Items needed are as follows:



Lotion  
Toothpaste  
Razors  
Soap  
Body Wash

Deodorant  
Toothbrushes  
Shaving Cream  
Shampoo

#### **"New Beginnings"** from *Our Daily Bread* (April 2014)

New beginnings are possible. Just ask Brayan, a young man who joined a gang in elementary school. Brayan ran away when he was 12 years old, and for 3 years was lost in gang and drug life. Although he left the gang and returned home, it was difficult for him, as he had been expelled from school for selling drugs. When he enrolled in a new high school, however, a teacher inspired and encouraged him to write about his experiences rather than repeat them. He embraced the challenge and is now experiencing a fresh start.

God, through the prophet Isaiah, encouraged Jewish exiles to think about a new beginning as well. God said, "Do not remember the former things, nor consider the things of old" (Isa. 43:18). He told them to stop dwelling on their punishment and even on His display of power through the original exodus from Egypt. He wanted their attention to be focused on God who would give them a new beginning by bringing them home from Babylon through a new exodus (v.19).

With God, new beginnings are possible in our hearts. He can help us to let go of the past and start clinging to Him. Relationship with Him provides a new hope for all who will trust Him.

*Lord, we need Your touch on our lives. Work in our hearts in whatever areas need a fresh start. Help us to do our part and to trust You to do what only You can do.*

***God gives fresh starts from the inside out.***