

COVENANT NEWS

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Week of August 26, 2018

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



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OPPORTUNITIES – Week of August 26, 2018

Sunday, August 26

9:30 am Coffee Fellowship
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service
5:30 pm Annual Back-to-School
Ice Cream Social

Monday, August 27

10 am – 12 pm First Day of School!
Fellowship Hall Reserved
CBS Team Preparations
7:30 pm Handbell Practice - Sanctuary

Tuesday, August 28

8:15 am – 2:30 pm Fellowship Hall & Ed Building Reserved
CBS Leadership Team Training
9:00 am Speeders – Grits N Greens Restaurant

Wednesday, August 29

8:15 am – 2:30 pm Fellowship Hall & Ed Building Reserved
CBS Leadership Team Training
Afternoon Sanctuary Reserved – CBS Worship
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Church Office Closed – Friday, August 31

BABIES & TODDLERS

PRESCHOOL

AUGUST 26 Susan Herd & Cathy Brooks Pam Phillips & Assistant

SEPTEMBER VOLUNTEERS

DEACON George Pettigrew	BUILDING LOCK-UP Steve McCraw	USHERS Koinonia Class
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OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

"Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you." – Jeremiah 29:12 NIV

Pam Buckner
(Iris Avery, Libby McCraw's sister-in-law)
(Dennis Clark, Becky Bumgardner's cousin)
(Regina Elmore, Linda Bess' sister)
(Lisa Grigg, Debbie Strider's sister-in-law)
(Jerry Hill – Trudy Shuford's brother-in-law)
(Charlain Fitzgerald) (Mary Kerley)
(Molly Menger,
Moris & Linda McSwain's granddaughter)
(Larry Marshall) (Ernie Smith)
(Calissa Stubbs, Prissy Griffin's granddaughter)
(Salvation for a Mother)

ANNUAL BACK-TO-SCHOOL ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Ice Cream with Sundae Fixings
AUGUST 26 5:30 pm



COVENANT BAPTIST

*Celebrating 30 years of
God's blessings!*

HOME COMING

SEPTEMBER 16



Dear Covenant Family,

Mary and I thank you, fellow believers, for the card on my 95th birthday (of course we thank Art Morgan for collecting the members' signatures). We treasure our charter membership (1988) there. Please know how delighted we are to hear of your growth in numbers and in spirituality. Too, we rejoice in the many good things we hear of Pastor Hensley: for his burden for the lost, for his dedication to feeding believers spiritual food for the Journey of Faith, and for his vision for inreach and outreach at Covenant.

We are Standing On His Promises for the Victory in Jesus! ARE YOU?

Luke and Mary Jarvis

PS: We thank that Great Preacher of the Word and our longtime friend, Rev. Lynwood Lavinder for his call.

A Word from the Pastor

September 22, 2018

Summer is ending, and schools are beginning to awaken from their short-lived hibernation. For some parents it is a blessing to send their children back to school. For many children returning to their classes can only be described as a drudgery. The teachers who return must be commended for their efforts as they face difficult situations that cannot be fully understood or appreciated by those of us who have never taught a day of class in our lives.

The teachers, students, and families of both are facing a time of heightened anxiety as the new normal of school schedules resumes. Questions like: will they be safe? Will my child face a bully? Will my spouse encounter a hard-luck case this year? Will my child succeed, or will I learn that he/she needs extra help or perhaps even need to be moved to the exceptional children class? How will we pay for the materials that my child(ren) needs? How many supplies will I (the teacher) need to purchase for my class? And the list of questions and concerns that weigh heavily on the minds of these people in our community continues ad nauseam.

Let us at Covenant offer a prayer for the teachers, students, and their families as they begin this new year of education, trials, successes, failures, and growth.

Merciful God, the time has come once again that our communities' schools are filled with teachers, students, administrators, and other individuals whose collective goal it is to mold our future generations. We live in a world of unknowns, questions of safety, of our children's future, and many others occupy our thoughts. The reality that our teachers who, already scrapping by, must dip into their own pockets to provide supplies for their students and classrooms, looms large.

We ask that You, our great provider and sustainer, make it possible that each classroom be provided for. Please give to the teachers the patience and endurance needed to educate our young people. Give to the students a listening ear and attentive mind, that they may learn and grow from their experience and be better prepared for their future. Protect our children and their educators who are so vulnerable. Have mercy, O God, on all who are sending a loved one into our school systems or whose shadow will darken the door of a school this year.

In the name of Jesus Christ and through the Holy Spirit we pray, amen.

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. – Isaiah 41:10

Covenant Church Family,

We are calling on all members who have an interest in writing, sharing the Good News of Christ, and participating in the celebration of the Advent season. We would love to hear from our brothers and sisters of our church family as we plan to put together an Advent devotional. Specifically, we would like anyone who may be interested to contribute one, or more if necessary, daily readings for the upcoming



season of Advent that begins on December 2 and continues through Christmas Day. Ideally, we are looking for twenty-four participants to write one devotional each. If you would like to write so that your sisters and brothers may hear your voice, please let Pastor Chris know by August 31. All devotions will be due by November 11.

What we are hoping for is that each devotion will be approximately 250 words. I will provide a handful of scripture options for each day that each author may select from to avoid overlap. Our hope is that each author will draw from his/her own experience in their writing so that we may hear from the many voices that make Covenant so special. The format of the book will likely be similar to that of the security booklet distributed earlier this summer. We hope that you will prayerfully consider adding your voice to the mix.

Pastor Chris



The family of James Howard Navey wishes to express deep appreciation and sincere thanks for your kind expression of sympathy.

Dearest friends,

During times like this, one wonders how a person without faith and no church family can manage. Your prayers and expressions of concern have sustained us during these days. We appreciate the cards, calls, and your attendance at the visitations and service.

We love you all!

Cathy

GIFTS HAVE BEEN GIVEN



In Memory of Jim Beauchamp

General Fund	Jan Kuhn
General Fund	Jennifer Tarkington
General Fund	Randy and Debbie Strider
General Fund	Rick and Livvie Richard
General Fund	William and Pamela Ofsanik
General Fund	Timothy Tysinger
General Fund	Joe Henderson

In Memory of James Navey

General Fund	Jan Kuhn
General Fund	Bill and Barbara Walters
General Fund	Jimmy and Dianne Duncan
General Fund	Sidney and Joan Lanier
General Fund	Dr. Luther and Mrs. Mary Jarvis

WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP MEAL

The Wednesday Fellowship Meals resume September 5. Time to sign up!

Sign-up sheets to reserve your meal on a permanent basis are located on the narthex table and church office hallway (beside the bulletin board). If you will not be able to join us each week, you may call to reserve your meal for any particular Wednesday. Call to reserve a meal or to cancel your permanent reservation by Tuesday morning.

Covenant meals are delicious, affordable, and offer great fellowship!





Birds of a feather flock to
Fellowship together!

All Ladies Invited

Saturday, September 8

11:30 am

Covenant Baptist
Fellowship Hall

Lunch Furnished by
The Women's Ministry

** Reservations required **

Sign-up Sheets in Sunday school
classes, outside church office,
on bulletin boards,
and in narthex

Reservations taken until 9/5/18



INREACH MINISTRY

Thank you for your participation in our Covenant Inreach Ministry. When money is given to the Inreach Ministry Fund, it is used to purchase the meat for the meals we provide in support of our Covenant families.

We will soon make available sign-up sheets to gather additional names who are willing to join an Inreach Ministry Group to provide meals when needed. You may sign a sheet that will be located in your Sunday school classroom or call Sharon.

Once again, thank you for caring. And remember, you may contribute funds at any time by noting on your check or envelope, "Inreach Meals."

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUMMER SCHEDULE

TEACHER - AUGUST 26

Trudy Shuford



Adult Sunday School Classes will resume meeting in their classrooms next Sunday, September 2.

