

COVENANT NEWS
 VOL. XXX No. 35
 Week of September 16, 2018
 A Publication of
 Covenant Baptist Church
 3131 Erskine Drive, Gastonia, NC 28054



Rev. Chris Hensley, 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
 sharon@covenantbaptist.net
 704-865-2538 www.covenantbaptist.net

OPPORTUNITIES – Week of September 16, 2018

- Sunday, September 16 *Homecoming***
 9:30 am Coffee Fellowship
 9:45 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship Service
 Plaque Dedication
 Covered-Dish Luncheon to Follow
- Monday, September 17**
 6:30 pm Diaconate Meeting
- Tuesday, September 18**
 8:15 – 11:45 am CBS Leadership Team Meeting
 7:00 pm Annual Church Council Meeting
 Old and New Members
- Wednesday, September 19**
 5:45 pm Fellowship Meal
 6:30 pm Town Hall Meeting
 6:20 – 7:15 pm Children’s Music & Missions
 6:20 – 7:15 pm Youth Hang
 7:15 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Church Office Closed – Friday, September 28

SEPTEMBER		
DEACON	BUILDING LOCK-UP	USHERS
George Pettigrew	Steve McCraw	Koinonia Class
SEPT 16	Renee & Hannah Phillips	Pam Phillips & Assistant
SEPT 23	Susan Herd & Cathy Brooks	Pam Phillips & Assistant
SEPT 30	Libby & Meredith McCraw	Pam Phillips & Assistant



TO OUR NEW MEMBER
CAMERON HARRELL

WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP MEAL 5:45 pm
 Adults — \$4.00 Grades 1–5 — \$1.50
 Preschool—Kindergarten — Free

To reserve a meal or to cancel your permanent reservation for the week, call by Tuesday morning.

MENU FOR
SEPTEMBER 19

- Hamburgers
- French Fries
- Tea
- Dessert



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 Meninger,
 Moris & Linda McSwain’s granddaughter)
 (Larry Marshall) (Ernie Smith)
 (Calissa Stubbs, Prissy Ballenger’s granddaughter)
 (Salvation for a Mother)

COVENANT BAPTIST
HOME COMING
 SEPTEMBER 16
 Guest Speaker – Rev. Ron Williams

Meat, green beans, yeast rolls, and tea
 will be furnished by the church.
 Please bring your favorite casseroles,
 vegetables, salads, and desserts.



Town Hall Meeting

Wednesday, September 19, 2018 6:30 PM

Topic: Hospitality Team

In a discussion that was birthed in a staff meeting the question of hospitality rose to the surface. First, a word of affirmation. Covenant Baptist Church is a friendly place where anyone would feel welcome to come and participate in worship. There is no shortage of smiling faces to greet you as you enter through our doors. However, and to loosely quote Coach Rivera following the Carolina Panthers' first victory of the season, "We're a good football team but we could be better." Covenant is a friendly congregation, but we could be better in our execution of that friendliness.

All members are invited to share in an open and frank discussion regarding the topic of hospitality. Specifically, we would like to explore what are our strengths and what are our weaknesses as we reflect on our hospitality here.

A panel of three will facilitate the discussion as we examine who we are, to whom we are striving to reach out, how we should best use our talents, abilities and resources, etc. in this effort to be as hospitable as possible.

Come prepared to discuss your ideas of how we might be better able to help make visiting guests more comfortable as they decided to join us for worship. If we were to form a hospitality team what would it look like? What would this team do? Do we need a formal team?

Reflect on how we here at Covenant have done well and struggled in this area in the past. What are we doing well now in terms of hospitality and how might we need to improve? What are our collective goals for hospitality in the future? Think also on your first Sunday here: what drew you here to begin with? Why did you keep coming back? Why did you stay?

We look forward to hearing your voices and sharing in this time of discussion.

Pastor Chris

Thank You

To Covenant Volunteers
who have been hard at work!

Spreading Mulch on the Children's
Playground in 88-Degree Weather!

-See picture at right-

and those who

Cleaned, Organized and Made
the Kitchen "Impressively Neat!"

Sorry, no picture at this time.



The October calendar and birthdays will be included with the September 23 newsletter. We will begin combining the calendar with the fourth newsletter of the month to better provide committees an opportunity to include on the next month's calendar their information and upcoming events. Birthdays will also be listed with the fourth Sunday newsletter.

5th SUNDAY BREAKFAST
Sunday, September 30 9:15 am

The church will furnish fruit, sausage biscuits and cheese grits. You may bring donuts if you wish!

**COMBINED ADULT
SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES**
Sunday, September 30 9:45 am



**Bible Study
to be taught
by Tim Taylor**

**Sunday Night
Youth Group
is back!**

The youth meet on Sunday night at 6:00 pm for a snack dinner, followed by Youth Group at 6:30 pm. Invite your friends/neighbors/that boy or girl you've been crushing on, and we'll fill our souls and stomachs with good food and great conversation. See Nick if you have questions.



ANNUAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, September 18



September 22

**MISSION ACTION COUNCIL
PROJECT FOR SEPTEMBER**
School Supplies for Gardner Park School



Called to Serve

**DEACON
ORDINATION SERVICE**
Sunday, September 23
Mrs. Doris Kellar



The "Let's Flamingle" event on Saturday, September 8 provided an inspiring devotional and fun fellowship together! Thank you to the Women's Ministry Team and to all who were involved.