

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Sympathy to ...

Vicki Evans on the death of her mother, Frances Buckelew Christle Murray.

Wear Your Nametags! — To help Pastor DeYoung and his family learn the names of members, as well as to help visitors recognize others, please wear your nametag. If you need one, email Mary Jo Culver at mculver@christcovenant.org.

ProjectSHARE in August: Commonwealth High School — We're collecting items the school can use to help give their students the foundation to succeed. See christcovenant.org/projectshare for more information and an item list.

Habitat for Humanity — Join us as we assist in building a Habitat House for the Kingombe family in the Crestdale community in Matthews! Please see our weekly E-Courier email or christcovenant.org/ministries/missions/get-involved for information about volunteering.

Interested in Serving in Children's Ministry? — Have you heard of the things God is doing in Children's Ministry? Do you want to be a part of it? Please contact teamcoordinators@christcovenant.org. We would love to have you on our team!

Women's Bible Studies and Anchor Small Groups — Registration is open for small group ministries. See christcovenant.org/womens-min for details and to register.

American Heritage Girls (AHG) — AHG is the premier national character development organization for young women, ages 5-18, that embraces Christian values and encourages family involvement. Our New Family Informational Meeting will be Thursday, August 24, from 7-8 p.m. in the Community Life Center, Room 2.

Charlotte Host Family Program — This program exists to connect international college students and scholars with American families for the purpose of friendship. It is NOT a live-in situation; you would just do something with your student every 4-6 weeks. Contact Lanier or Karen Ellis (704-502-3936 or klellis@carolina.rr.com) to begin a friendship. For more information, go to hostfamilyprogram.org.

RECONNECT — Are your teens addicted to their phones or video games? Join Tom Kersting, psychologist and author of *Disconnected*, and the Families Managing Media team on Thursday, August 31, at 7 p.m. at CPCC. Tom will explore the effects of screens on teens and give strategies to reduce conflict, balance screen use, and reconnect your family! Tickets and more information at reconnectevent.com.

Interested in Membership? — If you are interested in joining Christ Covenant Church, please consider signing up for the next Discovery Class (our membership class for 9th grade to adults), which will begin on September 10 at 9 a.m. Contact Mary Jo Culver to register (mculver@christcovenant.org or 704-814-1039).

Watching Our Budget — Thank you for your tithes and gifts to all of the ministries of Christ Covenant. Please continue to pray for God's provision in 2017.

| <i>Inflow 1/1/17 – 8/6/17</i> | <i>Actual</i> | <i>Budget</i> | <i>Difference</i> | <i>% (-) or +</i> |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Operating Budget | 2,962,941 | 2,992,500 | (29,559) | (0.99%) |
| Faith Promise Budget | 199,253 | 179,100 | 20,153 | 11.25% |
| <i>12/1/14 – 8/6/17</i> | <i>Gifts Received</i> | <i>3-Year Commitment</i> | <i>Fulfillment %</i> | |
| Our Heritage | 3,430,929 | 3,500,000 | 98.03% | |

PRAYER FOCUS THIS WEEK

The Persecuted Church: For female Christian prisoners in N. Korea, being further victimized by human traffickers who transport them into China as their property.
Our Presbytery: Norman Presbyterian Church, Norman, and Pastor Jack Bowling

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

See the online calendar or E-Courier for a more complete list, including regular weekly events and more details of upcoming church events and programs.

This Week Sunday 13th • Morning and evening worship (10:45 a.m. & 6 p.m.)
Sunday 13th • Stephen Chambers missionary luncheon (12 p.m.)
Sunday 13th • Charlotte Eagles Soccer League info meeting (3 p.m.)
Wednesday 16th • Set Free series Breaking the Silence (7 p.m.)

Upcoming Events August 21 • Yarn Lovers Ministry (7 p.m.)
August 23 • Yarn Lovers Ministry (10 a.m.)
August 24 • American Heritage Girls informational meeting (7 p.m.)
August 27 • Children's Ministry kick-off
August 27 • Blessing the Children (6 p.m. worship service)
August 28 • Congregational Day of Prayer
August 30 • CCYM/youth resumes (7 p.m.)
September 4 • Labor Day – church offices closed
September 5 • Men's Intensive Discipleship Program (6:30 p.m.)
September 10 • Discovery Class begins

THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHT "We're Glad You're Here!"

Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. — Romans 15:7

In a society where there is a handbook for everything, it should be no surprise to learn that Amazon carries close to 100 different books on how to create a welcoming church. That seems like a lot of words to reveal that one of the easiest and best ways to be a part of a congregation where people feel welcomed is to put yourself in the guests' shoes.

That's it. Hospitality in God's house doesn't require any special gifts, complicated techniques, or a "fourteen-point program." All we need to do is treat everyone here just like the Head of this house treats us. You don't have to worry about saying the wrong thing. Use the words you would like to hear from a stranger or a friend: "It's good to see you." "Hello!" "I'm happy you're here." "Isn't this a beautiful day?" If there's no time to say anything, a smile will deliver your message. You'll have time to say hello after the benediction.

Our growing congregation offers us many opportunities to greet visitors and guests with a friendly hello to let them know we are happy to have them join us for worship. We don't want anyone to slip out of our sanctuary without at least that brief contact, whether it is our morning or evening service.

To help reach that goal, our Welcoming and Connecting Ministry is looking for a few more smiling volunteers to join our team of greeters for the evening service. To learn more, please stop by the Information Desk in the lobby after morning worship or contact Mary Jo Culver at 704-814-1039 or mculver@christcovenant.org.

Submit prayer requests by pew card, email to prayer@christcovenant.org, or call the church office, 704-847-3505. In a pastoral emergency, call 704-708-6101.