

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to ...

Joe and Heather Milito on the birth of their daughter, Connie Rose Milito.

Deacons' Offering — Today's special offering is designated for seminary scholarships and pastoral internships. Please give as the Lord leads you.

CCYM (Youth Ministry) — Link & EPIC Wednesday evening programming has resumed. We meet weekly from 7-9 p.m. Link is the small group discipleship for high schoolers and meets in the Youth Center (lower level of the CLC). EPIC is filled with activities just for middle schoolers and meets in the Aux Gym (A building). For more information on youth programming, go to <http://christcovenant.org/ministries/youth>.

Women's Ministries Kickoff — Women are invited to a fall kickoff event on Thursday, September 14, at 7 p.m. in the Community Life Center. Please pick up an invitation with details after worship today. Information is also on our website calendar for details. For information and registration for our women's Bible studies and small groups beginning this month, see the links at <http://christcovenant.org/womens-min>.

Justice Sunday — This year's Justice Sunday, September 17, will focus on prison ministry. Join us for a joint Sunday school in the CLC at 9 a.m. where we will hear from Mark Casson, a former prisoner and now executive director of Metanoia Prison Ministry, and a panel of individuals involved in jail and prison ministries.

Community Heroes Celebration — You're invited to join Covenant Day School for our 18th Annual Community Heroes Celebration on Wednesday, September 20, at noon in the worship center. This is a special day to honor our first responders and military personnel from the greater Charlotte metro region and beyond. For more information, see <http://covenantday.org/heroes>.

ProjectSHARE in September: Bright Blessings — Bright Blessings serves the greater Charlotte region with programs that bring joy, care, and hope to homeless and impoverished children. See <http://christcovenant.org/projectshare> for the list of items we're collecting for their birthday program.

Trail Life USA — Are you looking for a Christian outdoor adventure, character, and leadership program for your son? Our church sponsors Trail Life Troop NC-0413 for boys, grades K-12. Join us for one of our open houses: September 7 and 14 at 7 p.m. in the CLC. For more information, please visit <http://www.traillifenc413.com>.

Reformation Conference and Celebration — Join us in celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation at a conference on Friday, October 27, and Saturday, October 28. Details and registration at <http://christcovenant.org/500>.

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 – 8/27/17</i>	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Difference</i>	<i>% (-) or +</i>
Operating Budget	3,245,751	3,259,500	(13,749)	(0.42%)
Faith Promise Budget	210,253	193,500	16,753	8.66%
<i>12/1/14 – 8/27/17</i>	<i>Gifts Received</i>	<i>3-Year Commitment</i>	<i>Fulfillment %</i>	
Our Heritage	3,498,002	3,500,000	99.94%	

PRAYER FOCUS THIS WEEK

The Persecuted Church: For Christians in Mexico where sharing the gospel is extremely dangerous and can result in many forms of intimidation by drug cartels including beatings, attacks on homes of church leaders, and killings.

Our Presbytery: Second Street Presbyterian, Albemarle, and Pastor John Black

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

This calendar shows upcoming special events. See the online calendar for a more complete list of weekly events and details of upcoming church events and programs.

This Week
Sunday 3rd • Morning and evening worship (10:45 a.m. & 6 p.m.)
Monday 4th • Labor Day – church offices closed
Tuesday 5th • Men's Intensive Discipleship Program (6:30 p.m.)
Wednesday 6th • CDS Convocation (10 a.m.)
Thursday 7th • Trail Life open house (7 p.m.)

Upcoming Events
September 10 • Discovery Class begins (9 a.m.)
September 10 • 18|22 pizza lunch and fellowship (noon)
September 10 • Timothy Project begins (5 p.m.)
September 10 • Children's choirs resume (6:15 p.m.)
September 11 • GriefShare support group begins (7 p.m.)
September 14 • Women's Ministries kick-off (6 p.m.)

THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHT Labor Day 2017

Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men. — Colossians 3:23

All work, even the most menial tasks, has great dignity.

In our work we are God's hands, sustaining and caring for His world. One of the main ways to please God in our work is simply to do work well. Some have called this "the ministry of competence." Christians can and must have deep appreciation for the work of those who work skillfully but do not share our beliefs.

The Christian faith gives us a new world-and-life view that shapes the character of our work. All well-done work that serves the good of human beings pleases God. Christians must think out how their faith will distinctly shape their work. The Christian faith gives you:

- a new identity, without which work can sink you.
- a new concept of the dignity of all work.
- a moral compass, without which work can corrupt you.
- a new worldview, without which work will be your master, not your servant.

How wonderful that the gospel works on every aspect of us — mind, will, and feelings — and enables us to both deeply appreciate the work of non-believers and yet aspire to work in unique ways as believers. Being Christian leads us to see our work not as merely a way to earn money, nor as primarily a means of personal advancement, but truly a calling — to serve God and love our neighbor.

Adapted from *Every Good Endeavor: Connecting Your Work to God's Work* by Tim Keller

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.