

Covenant Connection



COVENANT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, GASTONIA, NC

August 2023

Third Annual Craft Vendor Event September 9th, 9 am - 3 pm

calling all
Vendors

**10x10 space outside, 8' table space inside
\$25/space (tables available if needed)**

If you would like to JOIN IN THE FUN,
contact the church office at 704.865.5055

Worship in the Park!

September 17th
10 am - 2 pm
Rankin Lake



Looking forward to our annual worship at the park followed by a fellowship picnic. Everyone brings a dish (or 2) to share, desserts, and beverages. We have reserved a shelter by the lake with plenty of picnic tables and restrooms are close by. Dress comfortably and bring a lawn chair if you would like. There will be no worship service at the church on this Sunday.

Mark your calendar!





Happy Birthday!

- 6 Melanie Yelton
- 6 Meredith Yelton
- 7 Beverly Cole
- 9 Rebecca Brooks
- 11 Joaquin Rodriguez
- 11 Ron Culver
- 13 Eric Rogers
- 15 Luke Carpenter
- 19 Sallie Gibson
- 21 Andrea Bell
- 23 Dylan Gray
- 24 Carley Carpenter
- 28 Carly McMillan

Happy Anniversary!

- 2 - Harvey & Laura McDonald
- 6 - Tony & Teresa Wilson
- 8 - Mark & Caitlin Merritt
- 24 - Buddy & Brenda Johnson

out of
Office

Tammy Bassett, admin asst., will be out of the office August 7 & 8 for vacation.

August 24 she will be at a workshop and will not be in the office.



Double Good Popcorn Fundraiser! August 1 - 5 (all online sales)

Sale starts at 4 pm on August 1 through 4 pm on August 5. Fresh popped just for you! Check your email to click on the link that will take you to the website. If you did not get the email, call the church office and we can get it to you. It will just take a few minutes and Covenant gets 50% of all sales! You only have four days so check it out today!

July Worship Attendance & Giving

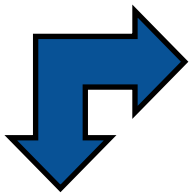
July 2	30	\$1,595
July 9	26	\$1,081
July 16	34	\$3,250
July 23	33	\$1,350
July 30	36	\$1,687

\$2,535 is needed weekly to meet our 2023 budget.

Promised Land Ministries led by Dixie Forbes meets in the fellowship hall each Sunday. Dixie feeds the homeless breakfast followed by a worship service. On the average 16-20 attend, July 30th she had 30 in attendance! Praise God!

With the cost of living going up on everything, aren't we glad God hasn't raised the tithe to 20%?





Covenant Prayer Corner

Praise God!

Brenda Johnson - all tests had good results, doing better

Jimmy Lynch - healing from shoulder surgery, feeling better

New/Updated Prayer Concerns

Ann Myers* (Kim Ramsey's mother) home from the hospital, on oxygen, doing better

Jim Taylor* (Larry's father) diagnosed with lymphoma, began treatments

Margaret Quinn (friend of Beverly Cole) will be having major back surgery soon as a result of a recent fall

Continued Prayer Concerns

Beverly Cole

Mildred McElveen

Jerry Smith*

Dean Atkinson

Laura McDonald

Tom & Val VanAntwerp*

Libby Grose

Dennis Dees

Jeff & Lisa Casey*

**Friends/family of members*

Thank you for all your cards, calls, and especially prayers for me. I'm doing well and and thankful your answered prayer.

Love, Brenda Johnson

August 13 former Pastor David Mason will be preaching. David and Elaine are looking forward to being with all of you at Covenant once again. A few members of the Joy Sunday School Class at First UMC may be with us that day. Remember the date as we join together to worship the Lord.



**United
Women
in Faith**

Hello Ladies, this month we are back to meeting in our circles. Actually August is when we meet twice since the holiday is the first week in September.

**August 7
10:00 am Mission Keepers**
Hostess: Ann Dees
Program: Margie Martin

**August 28, 11:00
Restaurant TBD**
Mission Keepers

**August 7
6:00 pm Hope Givers**
Hostess: Brenda Johnson
Program: Brenda Johnson

**August 28
6:00 pm Hope Givers**
Hostess: Pat Culver
Program: TBD

Oaklyn Lowman
“Mollys Kids”
Molly Grantham of WBTV

Who remembers Oaklyn Lowman? We’ve been following this Gaston County girl’s journey since December. She lives with uphill medical battles, only no one can tell her family what they are.

Her mom, Amber Lowman, knows something is going on. Yet, multiple specialists (geneticists, allergists, immunologists) can’t find anything despite test after test with this little girl. Even the Shriners Hospital for Children - Greenville, SC hasn’t been able to give an exact diagnosis.

In our latest #MollysKids article in April about Oaklyn (<https://tinyurl.com/Oaklyn2MKS>), we said Oaklyn was collecting can tabs, the ones you see on soda cans and use to pop open the drink, and they are donated back to the Shriners. The Shriners recycle them once a year to help with the expense of surgeries and medical needs. If you guys wanted to save them and get them to Oaklyn to donate to the hospital, I asked you to email me. I'd forward your email to Amber, who would take it from there.

Dozens and dozens of you wrote. Amber replied to each person personally and wrote this week to say, drum roll please. . .Oaklyn now has 175 GALLONS of can tabs to give to the Shriners’!

“The support is unbelievable! Schools, lawyer’s offices, banks, hospitals, bars, manufacturing plants, and even call centers have contacted me about collecting tabs,” Amber said. “One teacher said a couple of her students decided to collect tabs as a student council project. In the course of all these conversations I was having, many of those who have collected said they’d love to meet Oaklyn.” Amber and a local church have set up a way for that to happen.

Covenant United Methodist Church in Gastonia is letting Amber use their space for a can tab collection party. It’ll also double as an early birthday party for Oaklyn. “This way people can bring their tabs, and we can meet,” Amber said. “We’ll also have a hotdog fundraiser and cupcakes and games. All proceeds will go towards public access training for Oaklyn’s service dog, Reese.”

The party is next month, August 19th, from 11 am – 2 pm. The church is located at 801 West Franklin Blvd., in Gastonia, across from the Honey Hunters Stadium. Amber says everyone is welcome.

Separately, in that last April post on Oaklyn, we mentioned how she was scheduled for a ciliary biopsy through Duke University Medical Center. “To no one’s surprise, it came back normal,” Amber said. “In many, many ways, it’s good that it was ‘normal.’ But it still leaves us wondering what’s going on with my daughter.”

Last week Oaklyn and Amber (a single mom), went to Greensboro to meet up with an immunologist who tested Oaklyn for genes that might – maybe? possibly? – be connected to an autoimmune deficiency. They’re still waiting for results.

In the meantime, save those can tabs for Oaklyn. She’ll put them to good use. If you can’t make it to the party to donate them in August, you can always email me with a subject line that says, “*For Amber.*” I’ll forward your email to Amber and she can coordinate with you from there.

#MollysKids
molly.grantham@wbtv.com

Oaklyn and her mother Amber live in Dallas, NC.
along with her special friend, her service dog “Reese”





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>August 16 - Gaston County Schools First Day Back to School!</p> <p>Lots of Honey Hunters games this month! Reserve tickets if you would like to go.</p>	<p>1 10:00 Praise Team</p> <p>6:30 HH game</p>	<p>2 4:00 Youth Bible Study 6:00 Adult Bible Study</p> <p>6:30 HH game</p>	<p>3 4:00 Kids at Work</p> <p>6:30 HH game</p>	<p>4 6:30 HH game</p>	<p>5 6:30 HH game</p>	
<p>6 Communion</p> <p>10:30 Worship</p> <p>3:30 HH game</p>	<p>7 UWF Circle Mtgs</p> <p>10:00 Mission Kprs 6:00 Hope Givers</p>	<p>8 10:00 Praise Team</p> <p>6:30 HH game</p>	<p>9 No Bible Study this week.</p> <p>11:30 HH game</p>	<p>10 4:00 Kids at Work</p> <p>6:30 HH game</p>	<p>11 6:30 HH game</p>	<p>12 6:30 HH game</p>
<p>13 10:30 Worship</p>	<p>14 10:00 Praise Team</p> <p>6:30 HH game</p>	<p>15 10:00 Praise Team</p> <p>6:30 HH game</p>	<p>16 4:00 Youth Bible Study 6:00 Adult Bible Study</p> <p>6:30 HH game</p>	<p>17 4:00 Kids at Work</p> <p>6:30 HH game</p>	<p>18 6:30 HH game</p>	<p>19 11 am - 2 pm Meet Oaklyn Lowman 6:30 HH game</p>
<p>20 9:15 Council Mtg 10:30 Worship</p> <p>3:30 HH game</p>	<p>21 10:00 Praise Team</p>	<p>22 10:00 Praise Team</p>	<p>23 4:00 Youth Bible Study 6:00 Adult Bible Study</p> <p>6:30 HH game</p>	<p>24 4:00 Kids at Work</p>	<p>25 6:30 HH game</p>	<p>26 11:00 - 12:30 Community LUNCH</p>
<p>27 10:30 Worship</p>	<p>28 UWF Circle Mtgs</p> <p>11:00 Mission Kprs Meet at Restaurant 6:00 Hope Givers</p>	<p>29 10:00 Praise Team</p> <p>6:30 HH game</p>	<p>30 6:30 HH game</p>	<p>31 4:00 Kids at Work</p> <p>6:30 HH game</p>	 <p>No Hand Bells this month. We will begin rehearsals again September 5.</p>	



**Covenant United
Methodist Church**

**801 W. Franklin Blvd
Gastonia, NC 28052**

**Larry Taylor
Pastor**

**LTaylor1@wnccumc.net
828.413.4067**

Church Office

**704.865.5055
9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Monday - Thursday**

Administrative Assistant

**Tammy Bassett
covenantgastonia@gmail.com**

Music Director

Rebecca Brooks

Church Website

covenantumcgastonia.com

August 2023

Regular Scheduled Activities

Sunday

10:30 am Join us for worship!

Tuesday

10:00 am Covenant Praise

6:00 pm Joyful Noise Ringers

Thursday

4:00 - 7:00 pm Kids at Work

6:00 - 8:00 pm Girl Scouts (resumes in the Fall)

**COME
WORSHIP
with us!**

Monthly Activities

First Monday

10:00 am Mission Keepers Women's Circle

6:00 pm Hope Givers Women's Circle

Fourth Saturday of each month

11:00 am - 12:30 pm Community Lunch