

Covenant Connection



COVENANT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, GASTONIA,

February 2024

From the Desk of the Pastor . .

Can we honestly be talking about Easter? Before we do I want to say that we made it through the 2023 financial year! Thanks! Now, I would really like to see us start the new 2024 year a little better than we did last year. We're hoping, that with the help of Dr. Rev. Laura Elliott, we will be receiving grant money to help fund our mission programs. There is a cost to the church to keep the Promised Land service, Kids at Work, and our monthly community meals (which are free to all) operating. These ministries need your support and financial backing.

I know that on Sunday mornings we sometimes look around and remember how many people filled the sanctuary before COVID. I will say, yes, the numbers at our Sunday morning worship have gone down about 50%, but when we look at the number of people this church is serving each week that number is far greater! During my last meeting with District Superintendent, David Christy, he brought to my attention just how many people we are ministering to and serving. When we stopped to count, it is over 110 people in the community! That's a great start! We are also using the building more than it has been used in years. And although this is a great thing, we must continue to fund these ministries and missions. So, when it comes to our tithes, please know how much it is helping our community and how much it is appreciated.

Jesus told us in Matthew 25:40, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." So let's rally together and keep the great things happening here at Covenant United Methodist Church.

May God bless you today and every day,

Pastor Larry

"I can do all this through Him who gives me strength." Philippians 4:13



Ash
Wednesday
Service

February 14

5:30 Worship in the Chapel

6:15 Pancake Supper



Happy Birthday!

1 Allison Stutts
1 Melisa Armstrong
4 Lily Lowe
8 Judy Hoffman
8 Mason Meeks
11 Randy Dees
21 Jerry Yelton III
24 Savannah Raxter

Happy Anniversary!

25 Robert & Suzanne Kaylor



United
Women
in Faith

Western North Carolina

February 6

10:00 Mission Keepers Circle

Hostess: Trish Bridges

Program: Laura McDonald

6:00 Hope Givers Circle

Hostess: Sharon Brendle

Program: Andrea Bell

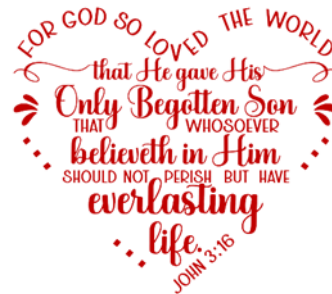
Nuts are still available! Pecan halves and pieces, chocolate covered pecans and sliced almonds. See Andrea Bell.

January Worship Attendance & Giving

January 7	32	\$988
January 14	32	\$1,890
January 21	32	\$2,455
January 28	29	\$1,450

To meet our 2024 budget, we need \$2,504 weekly.

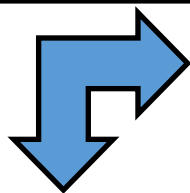
January 14 Promised Land had 35 people in attendance!



Reminder of Office Hours

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
9:00 am - 1:00 pm**

**Wednesdays
12:00 pm - 4:00 pm**



Covenant Prayer Corner

New/Updated Prayer Concerns

Elaine Mason* - Elaine is home, home health coming in, pray for Pastor David as well. Pray for strength and healing for Elaine as she is having trouble with her speech and mobility.

Lynn Johnson* (friend of Laura McDonald) many health issues

Jay Raxter - recovering from surgery, in rehab at Courtland Terrace

Continued Prayer Concerns

Beverly Cole

Mildred McElveen

Jerry Smith*

Libby Grose

Dean Atkinson

Jeff & Lisa Casey*

Dennis Dees

Laura McDonald

**Friends/family of members*

40 day Lent

GIVING CHALLENGE

Last year we put this challenge to you and y'all took it well! Last year, 61% of those envelopes were filled and we collected over \$2,200! We are challenging you again, let's see if we can get that percent higher! In the Narthex we have three boards. On those boards are envelopes numbered from 1 to 100. Pick an envelope, or two, any number you would like. The number that is on the envelope, put that dollar amount inside and bring it back the next week and put in the offering plate. All that is collected will go directly to our general fund. When all the envelopes are returned we will have collected \$5,050! Let's do this! Take the challenge!

MONTHLY CAM COLLECTION

Our annual collection month for Crisis Assistance Ministries is **this month!** We would also like to collect a little each month. Bins are in the narthex and by the side entrance. Pick up an extra item when you can, thanks!

February	Everything!
March	Peanut Butter & Jelly
April	Rice & Mac 'n Cheese
May	Personal Care Items
June	Pancake Mix & Syrup
July	Canned Fruits & Vegetables
August	Toilet Paper
September	Soup & Crackers
October	Canned Meats
November	Cereal, Oatmeal & Grits
December	Pasta & Pasta Sauce



**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, Tuesday, Thursday

12:00 - 4:00

Wednesday

Administrative Assistant

Tammy Bassett

covenantgastonia@gmail.com

Music Director

Rebecca Brooks

Church Website

covenantumcgastonia.com

February 2024

Weekly Scheduled Activities

Sunday

10:30 am Join us for worship!

Tuesday

10:00 am Covenant Praise Team

Wednesday

6:00 pm Joyful Noise Ringers

6:00 - 7:30 pm Girl Scouts (2nd/4th week)

Thursday

4:00 - 7:00 pm Kids at Work

**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

FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 4:00 - 7:00 Kids at Work	2 	3
4 10:30 Worship	5 Happy Valentine's Day  United Women in Faith Circles 10:00 Mission Kprs 6:00 Hope Givers	6 10:00 Praise Team	7  6:00 Joyful Noise Ringers Resume	8 4:00 - 7:00 Kids at Work	9	10 
11 9:00 Council Mtg 10:30 Worship	12	13 10:00 Praise Team	14 Ash Wednesday 5:30 Worship Svc in the Chapel 6:15 Pancake Supper 6:00 Girl Scouts	15 4:00 - 7:00 Kids at Work	16	17
18 1st Sunday in Lent 10:30 Worship	19 	20 10:00 Praise Team	21 6:00 Joyful Noise Ringers	22 4:00 - 7:00 Kids at Work	23	24 11:00-12:30 
25 2nd Sunday in Lent 10:30 Worship	26	27 10:00 Praise Team	28 6:00 Joyful Noise Ringers 6:00 Girl Scouts	29 4:00 - 7:00 Kids at Work	This Month is our annual collection month for Crisis Assistance Ministry. Pick up a list of items needed when you pick up a bulletin. February 14 - Ash Wednesday service and pancake supper.	