



Covenant Connection

From the Desk of the Pastor . . .

What a wild and crazy April! It sure seemed like April just blew by. I will say it was so exciting to see so many people coming through our church doors. We fed somewhere around 250 people in one week, WOW!! Let's keep the momentum going as we enter the month of May. We need to continue to look toward the future because far too often we look back to the so called "glory days" and wish it could be that way again. What may even be worst is the temptation to look around the corner or down the street or in some other town and with envy ask, "Why are they growing and we're not?"

One of our scriptures for the last week of April is from Acts 2:42-47 and there we will find that there are three marks of the early church that will help sustain life in a living church. First, is a living church, must be committed to the community. Second, a living church is committed to meeting needs, and third, a church that is alive is committed to a faithful witness.

The month of April has shown that Covenant United Methodist Church is a church that is alive so let's continue to commit to working hard for our community, to meet the needs of others. and of course, never stop being faithful disciples of our Lord and Savior.

Love you always and may God bless you today and every day,

Pastor Larry

"Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people.

And the Lord added to their numbers daily those who were being saved." Acts 2:46-47



**May 20, 2023
Fish Fry & Yard Sale
Promised Land Ministry
Fundraiser
(held at Covenant)**

The Promised Land Ministry led by Dixie Forbes, meets at the church every Sunday morning. Dixie makes a full breakfast and sometimes lunch for all that attend her morning service. She averages around 15-20 people per week. The majority of the people that come are homeless. She provides them a warm meal, personal items, clothing and shares the love of Jesus with them. Dixie purchases a lot of these items on her own but she also relies on donations. This month she will be doing a fish fry and yard sale to help with her ministry. If you have any items you would like to donate for the yard sale, you can put them in the room next to the nursery in the main hallway.



Compliments of the Honey Hunters, the church has season tickets once again!

4 tickets are available for each home game and they are great seats near home plate. Members of the church can sign up for a game they would like to attend. Schedules and sign up sheet is on the desk outside the church office. To pick up your tickets, see Pat, Kim or Tammy. Hope you get to enjoy a game or two! We have a great team this year! Their record is 3--0 for the first week-end of the season! Go Honey Hunters!

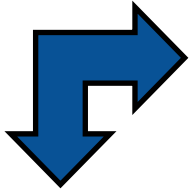
THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!!!

Many thanks for all your help!!! We are so thankful for our volunteers that always are willing to pitch in one way or another! We had a good time of fellowship at our spaghetti dinner fundraiser and basket raffle; served about 50 meals and auctioned off 10 baskets! Thank you to our Honey Hunters that donated baskets for three lucky fans! Thank you to all who put together some fun baskets for the raffle 😊 Food Lion donated all the ground beef and other items needed so we are thankful for that as well. We have some spaghetti sauce leftover to provide for our community lunch this month.

Within the same week, many of you came out again to help with the Honey Hunters BBQ dinner! Thank you to Tony Wilson for cooking 100 lbs of BBQ! It was fun to meet the new 2023 team and they were very appreciative of the delicious meal. For both meals many of the ladies of the church provided yummy desserts, we thank you! Rocco Cochran spent both the days here with his Dad (Matt), and made a new friend with Alex #20, one of the pitchers. Rocco entertained him for a few hours! He was happy Dad won a Honey Hunters Fan basket. Enjoy a game or two this season, see the office for tickets.

Thank you EVERYONE!!!! We appreciate you and your willingness to serve at Covenant! May God bless you all as you have blessed so many with your service!



Covenant Prayer Corner

New/Updated Prayer Concerns

Pat Ledford* (friend of Andrea Bell) recovering from emergency surgery

Continued Prayer Concerns

Tom VanAntwerp*	Mildred McElveen	Jay Raxter	Beverly Cole
Libby Grose	Dean Atkinson	Dennis Dees	Laura McDonald
Sarah Bentley	Don Oglesby	Jerry Smith*	Jeff & Lisa Casey*

**Friends/family of members*



Happy Birthday!

- 1 Jim Brendle
- 4 Wesley Lowe
- 5 Brenda Johnson
- 12 Don Gibson
- 15 Margie Martin
- 18 Ann Dees
- 23 Cole McGinnis
- 23 Amberic Lowe
- 24 Sharon Brendle
- 24 Marcia Phillips
- 25 Abigail Fairfield
- 30 Buddy Johnson

Happy Anniversary!

- 13 Joseph & Leanne Flowers
- 23 Don & Sallie Gibson
- 28 Jim & Sharon Brendle

April Giving & Worship Attendance

April 2	34	\$2,838
April 9	43	\$1,492
April 16	36	\$1,931
April 23	37	\$1,270
April 30	26	\$2,120

Lenten Challenge - \$821!

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

Church Directory





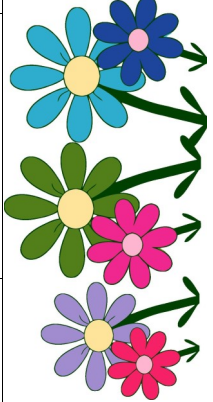
Church directories are available. If you haven't picked one up, they are on the table at the side entrance. If you would like one mailed to you, call the church office. To protect others privacy, you may bring your old ones to shred, place in the 'old directories' bin on table. Thank you!









SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>April SHOWERS BRING May FLOWERS</p>	<p>1 UMF Circles 10:00 Mission Kprs 6:00 Hope Givers</p>	<p>2 10:00 Praise Team 6:00 Hand Bells</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 4:00 Kids at Work 6:00 Girl Scouts</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>7 Communion 10:30 Worship</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9 10:00 Praise Team 6:00 Hand Bells</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 4:00 Kids at Work 6:00 Girl Scouts</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> 
<p>14 10:30 Worship</p> 	<p>15</p>	<p>16 10:00 Praise Team 6:00 Hand Bells</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 4:00 Kids at Work 6:00 Girl Scouts</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Fish Fry/Yard Sale Fundraiser for The Promised Land</p>
<p>21</p> <p>9:15 Council Mtg 10:30 Worship</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 10:00 Praise Team 6:00 Hand Bells</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 4:00 Kids at Work 6:00 Girl Scouts</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 11:00 - 12:30</p> 
<p>28</p> <p>10:30 Worship</p>	<p>29</p> 	<p>30 10:00 Praise Team 6:00 Hand Bells</p>	<p>31</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



May 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

**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