

Covenant Connection



COVENANT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, GASTONIA, NC

January 2024

Let's Make a Joyful Noise to the Lord!

Rebecca would like to invite you to join the Hand Bells and/or Praise Team! The Praise Team meet at 10 am on Tuesday mornings and the Joyful Noise Ringers meet Wednesdays at 6 pm. (resuming Feb. 7) Come make a joyful noise with us! The invitation is always open! It's easy to play the bells, all you have to know is how to count to four and the colors pink and green. It's a fun, rewarding, and easy way to serve the Lord! Join us! If you're interested, talk to Rebecca Brooks this Sunday!



United Women in Faith

We still have nuts! The United Methodist Women annual nut sale benefits local Mission Projects. Call the church office or call Andrea Bell at East Gastonia Hardware (704-864-5404) All are 1 lb. bags with the exception of Chocolate Pecans which are 12 oz. Thank you for your support!

Pecan Halves. \$12.00

Pecan Pieces  \$11.00

Choc. Covered Pecans . . \$11.00

Sliced Almonds. \$ 8.00

MONTHLY CAM COLLECTION

Our annual collection month for Crisis Assistance Ministries is February, and 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!

January	Pasta & Pasta Sauce
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

Church Council Planning Meeting

We will meet on January 21 at 2 pm for our Annual Planning Meeting. Start thinking about things you would like to do this year or changes we may need to make to be more successful in achieving our goals for 2024. Make your best effort to attend. Calendars will be provided.



*Happy
Birthday!*

- 2 Kim Ramsey
- 9 Jay Baxter
- 9 Dick Cole
- 9 Chloe Merritt
- 10 Matthew Coate
- 14 Sandy Tice
- 27 Lila Smith
- 28 Callum Duncan

It's A Boy


Atlas Ezren McCully

November 30, 2023

7 lbs. 4 oz.

*Atlas is #7 great grandchild
for Jim & Sharon Brendle!*

*Parents:
DJ & Meredith McCully
Congratulations!*

We Miss You!

Come worship with us!

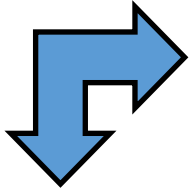
**December Worship
Attendance & Giving**

December 3	35	\$4,270
December 10	32	\$1,055
December 17	41	\$5,779
December 24	35	\$2,205
December 31	38	\$1,788

Thank you for being faithful in your giving to the Lord so we can continue to serve Him at Covenant UMC. To meet our 2024 budget, we need \$2,504 weekly.

Elf on a shelf? Psh.
What Jesus wants is ewe in a pew!





Covenant Prayer Corner

New/Updated Prayer Concerns

Elaine Mason* - recovering from surgery, waiting on test results, in rehab at The Greens at Gastonia (formally Brian's Center)

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

Laura McDonald - recovering from COVID, pray for strength and healing

Continued Prayer Concerns

Beverly Cole

Mildred McElveen

Jerry Smith*

Libby Grose

Ron Culver

Dean Atkinson

Jeff & Lisa Casey*

Dennis Dees

Jay Raxter

Scott Ramsey

**Friends/family of members*



Our Christian Sympathy is expressed to Harvey & Laura McDonald on the death of Harvey's sister-in-law, Betty McDonald, and to Jim & Sharon Brendle on the death of Sharon's brother, Bill Pope. We share in your sorrow with love and friendship.

JUST WANTED
to say
thank
YOU
so much

Dear Covenant Members,

Thank you for your generous Christmas gift to me! Covenant is such a loving church and I'm glad to be part of it! I hop you all had a very Merry Christmas with your family and friends, sharing good food, gifts, and reflecting on fond memories of Christmas past! I pray for you a happy, healthy and prosperous new year and to always let Jesus shine through you! God's peace for each new day! - Rebecca

Dear Friends,

What can I say? You guys are great! I appreciate the gift and thinking of me! I also appreciate so many of you that thank me throughout the year; I am just doing my job but the words of appreciation are always nice to hear! I enjoy my job at Covenant because I enjoy working for the special people here. Thank you for your prayers for me these last few months as I have not felt well; it meant so much to me. May you all have a year of blessings and good health! Love y'all! ☺ Tammy




2024 COVENANT BUDGET

Children's Ministry	\$150.00
Church Utilities	\$18,000.00
Cleaning Services	\$4,800.00
Clergy Continuing Education	\$1,000.00
Clergy Travel/Related Expense	\$2,400.00
Clergy to Annual Conference	\$400.00
Communications/Calling Post	\$500.00
Crisis Assistance Ministry	\$3,000.00
District Apportionments	\$1,016.00
Education	\$500.00
Evangelism	\$100.00
Family Ministries	\$500.00
Flower Fund Expense	\$250.00
Garbage Pick-Up	\$2,300.00
Insurance Premiums	\$11,178.00
Lawn Care	\$2,880.00
Lay Delegate to Annual Conference	\$400.00
Loan Interest - UMF	\$2,400.00
Maintenance/Custodial/Kitchen Supplies	\$5,000.00
Miscellaneous Expense	\$2,000.00
Miscellaneous Musician Expense	\$1,000.00
Missions (Comm. Lunch, Kids at Work)	\$2,000.00
Music & Supplies	\$600.00
Office Supplies/Newsletter	\$5,000.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$500.00
Personnel Substitutes	\$500.00
Single Figure Apportionments	\$4,621.00
Telephone & WiFi	\$2,000.00
Worship	\$250.00
Youth	\$0.00
Total General Expenses	\$75,245.00
Clergy Salary	\$16,000.00
Clergy Housing	\$9,000.00
Administrative Assistant	\$12,729.05
Pianist/Choir/Hand Bell	\$15,000.00
Payroll Expense	\$2,222.00
Total Payroll Expense	\$54,951.05
TOTAL BUDGETED EXPENSES	\$130,196.05



January 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 10:00 Praise Team	3	4 4:00 - 7:00 Kids at Work	5	6 10:00 Removal of the Greens
7 10:30 Worship	8 UWF Circles 10:00 Missions Kprs 6:00 Hope Givers	9 10:00 Praise Team	10 6:00 Girl Scouts	11 4:00 - 7:00 Kids at Work	12	13
14 10:30 Worship	15	16 10:00 Praise Team	17	18 4:00 - 7:00 Kids at Work	19 	20
21 10:30 Worship 2:00 Council 2024 Planning Meeting	22 	23 10:00 Praise Team	24 6:00 Girl Scouts	25 4:00 - 7:00 Kids at Work	26	27 11:00 - 12:30 
28 10:30 Worship	29	30 10:00 Praise Team	31	Coming up in February: Hand Bells will resume February 7 at 6 pm. CAM Annual Collection Month		



**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

January 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