

COVENANT CONNECTION



COVENANT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, GASTONIA, NC

July 2025



*Welcome to Covenant
Pastor Melanie & Family!
July 13th - 1st Sunday*

Glad to have you as part of our church.

May God enrich our lives together as we worship and serve him.

Let's give Pastor Melanie a warm welcome on her first Sunday with us!



Hello! My name is Pastor Melanie Whaley, and I am excited for the opportunity to serve at Covenant United Methodist Church. I was born, raised, and still live in Morganton. My husband, Wayne, and I have just celebrated 26 years of marriage. Wayne is a retired school teacher and now works as a motor coach driver for Christian Tours. We have two children. Our son Chris, who is a graphic designer, lives in Virginia and works in the marketing department of Chowan University. Our daughter Stephanie graduated from high school this past May, and will be attending Western Piedmont Community College this fall to get a degree in nursing.

As well as being able to serve Covenant, I am a high school math teacher at East Burke High School. I have taught at East Burke for 24 years.

I look forward to meeting everyone and getting to know all of you as well as working with you as we travel this path God has put us on together.

Pastor Melanie



VENDOR FAIR



September 20, 2025
Saturday, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Vendors are needed! Get the word out! We will also have the themed basket raffle so if you would like to do a basket, that would be great! Any questions call Pat Culver (330-240-5589) or the church office (704-865-5055). Advertisement fliers and vendor info are available at the church office.



- 1 Sydney Armstrong
- 3 Drew Merritt
- 4 Sherri Poole
- 5 Erin McGinnis
- 6 Linda Harrison
- 9 Emily Choate
- 12 Cora Jane Bolden
- 14 Harvey McDonald
- 14 Mark Merritt
- 14 Linda Raxter
- 14 Cindy Mathews
- 17 Tony Wilson, Jr.
- 20 Ken Aldridge
- 23 Dob Phillips
- 26 Josh McMillan

Happy Anniversary!

- 1 Ken & Amy Aldridge
- 30 Joaquin & Brenda Rodriguez



Members of Covenant,

Thank you to everyone for all you did to make last Sunday a fabulous celebration for Pastor Larry and Sharon! Everyone came together and provided and we had an over abundance of food! Thank you to the UMW for providing the fried chicken! It was a great celebration! May God Bless You All! Thank You!

June Worship Attendance & Giving

June 1	26	\$4,090
June 8	22	\$ 660
June 15	26	\$ 685
June 22	13	\$ 910
June 29	42	\$2,662

Covenant Prayer Corner

New/Updated Prayer Concerns

Wayne Houser - had two weeks of treatments for malignant spots in his lungs, doctors are optimistic that only the few treatments were needed, pray for good results!

Laura McDonald - back in the hospital, fluid in her lungs, low oxygen, pray for Harvey, as this is difficult for them to be apart

Ongoing Prayer for Health

Mildred McElveen	Beverly Cole	Mandi Merritt
Ann Myers*	Jeff & Lisa Casey*	Kelly Ballard*
Dean Atkinson	Linda Raxter	

**Friends/family of members*

Family of Gerald 'Jerry' Smith, Brenda Rodriguez's father, recently passed away. A celebration of life was held in Portville, NY on June 28th. Remember Brenda and family in prayer.

Let's all pray and work together to make this new chapter of our church to go smoothly!

Monthly Devotion

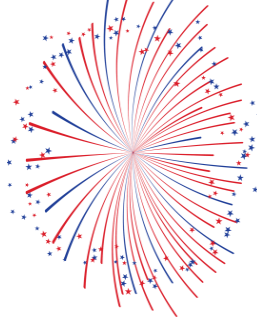
"Respect everyone, and love your Christian brothers and sisters. Fear God and respect the government." 1 Peter 2:27

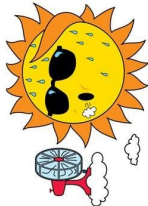
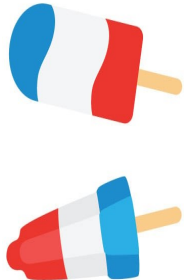
On this Independence Day we should be on our knees thanking God for all He has given us! The United States is a country in which everyone has an equal opportunity. Thank God for a country where there is no caste or class to keep a man from going to the top. If a man has a will to work and study, he can go ahead regardless of his background. In addition, thank God, He has given us freedom of religion. Whatever you may believe, no one can close your church because your religion does not coincide with his. A few people meeting in a small, out-of-the way shack, worshipping God as they believe in Him, have the same right to religious freedom as the people who worship God in the great cathedrals on the avenues of our greatest cities. ~ Day By Day with Billy Graham

Thanking God for our freedoms should be everyday not just on July 4th! I'm thankful for the freedom to come to CUMC and I pray that nothing will close our house of worship! We may not be a little out-of-the way shack or a great cathedral in a big city, but we do have a loving, caring, and God fearing flock of Jesus' followers here! Thanks be to God!

~ Rebecca Brooks

JULY



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
The United Women in Faith will not meet this month.		1 No Praise Team	2	3 4:00 Kids at Work	4 	5
					Home Game 4 pm	Home Game 7 pm
6 10:30 Worship	7	8 10:00 Praise Team	9	10 4:00 Kids at Work	11	12
Home Game 4 pm		Home Game 6:30 pm	12:30 pm Home Game	Home Game 6:30 pm		
13 9:15 Council Mtg 10:30 Worship Pastor Melanie's first Sunday!	14 Keep Cool! 	15 10:00 Praise Team	16	17 4:00 Kids at Work	18	19
					Home Game 7 pm	Home Game 7 pm
20 10:30 Worship	21	22 10:00 Praise Team	23	24 4:00 Kids at Work	25	26 11:00 – 12:30 
2:30 pm Home Game		Home Game 6:30 pm	12:30 pm Home Game	Home Game 6:30 pm		
27 10:30 Worship	28	29 10:00 Praise Team	30	31 4:00 Kids at Work		



**Covenant United
Methodist Church**

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

**Melanie Whaley, Pastor
828.217.3173
mwhaley1@wnccumc.net**

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**



Weekly Scheduled Activities

Sunday

10:30 am Join us for worship!

9:30 am Promised Land Worship, held in the fellowship hall
9:00 am Haitian Worship, held in the chapel

Tuesday

10:00 am Covenant Praise Team

Thursday

4:00 pm Kids at Work

**COME
WORSHIP
with us!**

Monthly Activities

First Monday

10:30 am Covenant Women in Faith Circle Meeting

Fourth Saturday

11:00 am - 12:30 pm Community Lunch