



Covenant United Methodist Church

801 W. Franklin Blvd
Gastonia, NC 28052

Larry Taylor
Pastor

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Church Office

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9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Monday - Thursday
covenantgastonia@gmail.com

Tammy Bassett
Administrative Assistant

Laura McDonald
Director of Music

Rebecca Brooks
Pianist

www.covenantumcgastonia.com
Website

February 2020

Regular Scheduled Activities

Sunday

- 8:00 United Methodist Men's Breakfast/Devotion (bi-monthly)
March - May - July - August - October - December
9:45 Sunday School
11:00 Worship
2:00 Council Meeting (2nd wk)

Monday

- United Methodist Women Circle Meetings (1st wk)
10:00 Mission Keepers Circle
6:30 Hope Givers Circle

Tuesday

- 12:30 Young & Lively Luncheon (3rd wk)

Wednesday

- 6:00 Hand Bells Rehearsal
7:00 Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Covenant Connection



COVENANT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, GASTONIA

Valentine's Day Dinner

February 14, 2020

6:00 pm



Prime Rib
Baked Potato
Seared Asparagus
Tossed Salad
Dinner Roll
Sweet Tea/Coffee
Dessert



Covenant United Methodist Men are preparing this delicious dinner!
Tickets are on sale through **February 9th**. \$20 each
See Tony Wilson or Henry Raxter for tickets.
No tickets will be sold after the 9th. Bring a friend!

February
2020



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1 Melisa Armstrong
1 Allison Stutts
4 Lily Lowe
8 Judy Hoffman
8 Mason Meeks
11 Randy Dees
21 Jerry Yelton III
23 Shawn Carpenter
23 Betty Lynch
24 Savannah Raxter
29 Judy Paige

Happy Anniversary!
2 Chick & Eileen Lowe - 57 yrs!
25 Robert & Suzanne Kayler


Serving Christ Schedule for February

Ushers	Greeters	Nursery & Children's Church
Wayne Houser Robert Kayler	Linda Harrison Ruth Houser	Melisa Armstrong Sydney Armstrong Kim Ramsey Katie Cochran

January 2020
Worship Attendance
Tithes & Offerings

January 5	50	\$1,758
January 12	50	\$3,237
January 19	61	\$2,552
January 26	50	\$1,617

\$2,463 is needed weekly to meet our 2020 budget.



Sanctuary Flowers for 2020

Johnnie Flanagan has volunteered to head up the flower chart once again! She did a great job last year getting all are weeks reserved for flowers in the sanctuary and it was so nice to have all the weeks reserved ahead of time! If you would like to reserve a week that is special to you, see Johnnie. You may want to sign up for the same weeks from last year, she has the list, just let her know!

The weeks that aren't reserved are paid for by the church. Let's get these weeks filled! Two arrangements - \$25 Place your checks in the offering plate anytime before or on the date you reserved, be sure to mark the envelope "flowers." Thank you Johnnie!

February

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 Communion 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 3:00-5:30 CV District Lay Servant Training	3 UMW Circle Mtgs 10:00 Mission Kprs 6:30 Hope Givers	4	5 6:00 Hand Bells 7:00 Choir	6 4:00-7:00 Kids at Work	7	8 1 Bring your items for CAM this month! FOOD DRIVE
9 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 2:00 Council Meeting 3:00-5:30 CV District Lay Servant Training	10	11	12 6:00 Hand Bells 7:00 Choir	13 4:00-7:00 Kids at Work	14 Valentine's Day ♥♥♥♥ 6:00 Valentine Dinner - Prime Rib	15
16 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 3:00-5:30 CV District Lay Servant Training	17 Presidents Day	18 12:30 Y&L Lunch	19 6:00 Hand Bells 7:00 Choir	20 4:00-7:00 Kids at Work	21	22 8:00-10:30 Community Breakfast
23 Contemporary Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 3:00-5:30 CV District Lay Servant Training	24	25	26 Ash Wednesday 6:00 Pancake Supper 7:00 Ash Wed Service	27 4:00-7:00 Kids at Work	28	29

LET'S MAKE A 'CHANGE' IN OUR COMMUNITY!

The Outreach Committee of Covenant would like your help in helping those less fortunate in our community. We will collect items monthly for Crisis Assistance Ministry and during Lent, collect loose change for Bread, Inc.

Crisis Assistance Ministry

In addition to our annual CAM donations that we collect in February, we will collect a few items per month.

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

***No corn or green beans please. We have an abundance.**

B.R.E.A.D.

Blessings Received Each Appointed Day

All work is volunteer (we have no paid staff or paid board members) and most of our food is donated. We share the love of Jesus Christ to those in need, by providing food and groceries to the homeless, elderly, and low-income individuals and/or families of Gaston County. Income to meet our monthly rent/utilities/food and transportation costs comes from generous hearts like yours who care about those in need and from our God who has never let us down. In 2019 we served an average of 175 clients/week.

During the Lenten season, we will be collecting for this ministry through our Lenten Jars.



Make a Change Lenten Jars

March 1 - April 12

Take a jar home and fill it with spare change during Lent and bring it back on Easter Sunday.

New Directories Coming Soon!

We need to be sure our information is correct! Did you change your email or phone # in the last year? Newsletters and prayer requests/updates are sent via email, so if you have email, be sure the office has your correct address. If you don't use email, let us know that as well.

Cell numbers are optional, but we do need a contact phone for all. For those of you who regularly worship with us, although haven't joined in membership, are welcome to be included as well. **Call the office or email** your information to covenantgastonia@gmail.com.

Get your information in as quickly as possible; we would like to print off the new directories by the end of the month. Thank you in advance for your cooperation. ☺



Hello Everybody!

I'm so excited about the upcoming year! We have made some great plans, including some slightly different General Meetings, a UMW Sunday in September, and our fund-raising luncheons.

The first thing on our schedule will be our Call to Prayer & Self Denial meeting. It will be held in Laura's Sunday school classroom and breakfast will be provided. Join us on February 9th at 9:00 am! Mark your calendars!

Judy Hoffman

Circle Meetings - February 3

Mission Keepers - 10:00 am
Hostess: Trish Bridges
Program: Laura McDonald
Meet at the church

Hope Givers - 6:30 pm
Hostess: Teresa Wilson
Program: Sharon Brendle
Meet at the church

Dream Big - Sparkle More - Shine Bright!

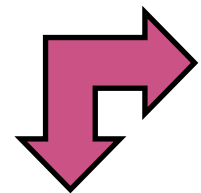
Community Breakfast

4th Saturday



February 22, 2020
8:00 - 10:30 am

Beginning this month, Covenant will be hosting a free community breakfast on the 4th Saturday of every month from 8:00 am - 10:30 am. More details will follow in upcoming bulletins. Donations are accepted but not expected. Join us as we share the love of Christ with our community ♥



Covenant Prayer Corner

New/Updated Prayer Concerns

Tommy Sue Atkinson - broke her collar bone, pray for healing and for Dean as he cares for her
Marcia Campbell* (Laura McDonald's cousin) having tests as they have found areas of concern on her lung and liver

Fran Ellis - has arthritis in her spine, been in a lot of pain, will be out of work for a while, and having physical therapy

Sue McMillan (Pat Leigh's sister) cancer, recovering from surgery

Jerry Moore (B.A.'s brother) diagnosed with stage 4 cancer

Tammy Welch (Judy Hoffman's sister-in-law) having heart issues

Continued Prayer Concerns *non-church members

Jay Raxter	Pat Leigh	Glenn Leigh	Larry Moore*	Don Gibson
Jean Stewart	Harvey McDonald	Mary Payseur*	Dennis Dees	B.A. Moore

Covenant Shut-Ins

Betty Lynch - Covenant Village, Room B116

B.A. Moore - home

Our Christian Sympathy and love is expressed to Chick, Chris, Kelly, Rodney, and Family on the recent death of Eileen, a loving wife, mother, grandmother and a friend to so many of us at Covenant. February 2 is the 57th wedding anniversary of Chick & Eileen, what a blessing to have so many years together. Though we will all miss Eileen, we are thankful she is healed and with her Lord and Savior! A Celebration of Life was held January 31st at Covenant. Be in prayer for the Lowe family.



Mary Evelyn Taylor

January 14, 2020

9 lbs 5 oz

Parents: Brad & Mary Katherine

Big Brother: Ross

Grandparents: Larry & Sharon



Lila Kaye Smith

January 27, 2020

7 lbs 4 oz

New Mommy: Meredith Yelton

Grandma: Faith Yelton

Great Grandparents:

Dean & Tommy Sue Atkinson

A note from the Pastor . . .

A couple of weeks ago I spoke about a man I meet in the lobby of the hospital. I had gone to the hospital to visit B.A. with the hope I could be of some help to him and Carolyn. B.A. had already been released so I ended up waiting in the lobby for Sharon to pick me up. I sat down beside a man who I could tell was having a rough time. I went to be of some spiritual help to B.A. and Carolyn, but it turned out that I walked away being the one blessed. The man and I got into a conversation about many different things but when I asked him if he needed anything all he said he wanted was "to love somebody and to be loved by somebody. Isn't that what we all want? Isn't that what God wants for us? We know we are loved because God tells us that there is no greater love than the love He has for us.

So, the question is how can we love and be loved? First let's turn to scripture. John 13:35 tells us "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples if you love one another". So, we must love to be loved. Loving is easy when it's someone who is family or friend but what about someone who doesn't act like us or doesn't think like we do? In Matthew 5:44 Jesus tells us to "love your enemies ...".

Second, we must pray for ourselves. Prayer helps us to develop a relationship with God so we can have a better understanding of his loving nature. God loves us no matter what we do. We are to love God with all our heart, all our soul, all our mind and all our strength. With God's help we can learn to love everyone.

And finally, you must pray for others. Matthew 5:44 continues "... and pray for those who persecute you". We need to pray for God to fill others with the knowledge of his love and will. Every Sunday we pray the Lord's prayer "forgive those who trespass against us".

So, if we read the scripture, pray for ourselves and pray for others we are showing our love for God and for all his people.

In closing I Corinthians 13:13 says "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love".

SEE YOU SUNDAY!!!!

Pastor Larry

