



# THE COURIER

LIFE AT CHRIST COVENANT

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2020**

### Sympathy to:

John McPhail on the death of his father, Dr. John M. McPhail

### Congratulations to:

Harris and Rebekah Adams on the birth of their daughter, Mary Elizabeth Adams.

Andrew and Kelly Lingg on the birth of their son, Ivan Matthew Lingg.

## CCYM LUMBERJACK GAMES

Middle & high school students - don't miss "The Lumberjack Games" at the CLC youth center & outside the CLC the evening of Wednesday, January 8. (This will take the place of the regular Epic and Link). Be sure to wear your flannel and to dress warmly. Cost \$8 per person; \$15 per family. You don't want to miss the music, hamburgers, s'mores, hang-out time, all kinds of lumberjack games, contests, etc. Be sure to invite your friends! If you have any questions, contact Jan at jadams@christcovenant.org.



## HIS ABILITIES SPEAKER SERIES

The HisAbilities Ministry's next speaker series is themed "For the Long Haul," focusing on caregiving in a sustainable way and building friendships that last. We hope you are able to join us on Saturday, January 11 from 9:30am - 11:15am in the Chapel of the CLC. Jeff and Jan Clayton will be sharing about "Caregiving for the Long Haul". This event is free to attend with a light breakfast provided. Please RSVP to hisabilitiesrsvp@gmail.com by January 8. Limited childcare is available; please include childcare requests in your RSVP.

## UPCOMING MARRIAGE CONFERENCE



Christ Covenant is hosting the marriage conference "I Still Do" on March 27-28, 2020 with Dave Harvey. Whether you find yourself pleased or displeased with the state of your marriage, this conference will offer you encouragement, hope, and practical tools for weathering life's storms together. The early bird pricing is \$65 per individual or \$120 per couple. Early bird registration goes through January 18. Please visit <https://ibcd.org/i-still-do/> to learn more or to register!

## ITEMS FOR PRAYER THIS WEEK:

**STRATEGIC INITIATIVE: SUNDAY SCHOOL & SMALL GROUPS PROJECT GROUP |** This group is tasked with strengthening the disciple-making ministry of Christ Covenant Church through the development of recommendations regarding our educational culture, Sunday School structure, and small groups ministry. Please join us in praying for this Project Group:

- For effective communication: Pray that we would communicate in a way that is winsome and effective so every member understands the new things that are happening and feel connected!
- For the men who will be teaching our Sunday school classes for the January-April trimester. For God to prepare them to handle His Word well and that our people would be edified and grow in the knowledge and love of God's Word.
- As we launch the new Sunday School model, our team is moving on to discussions about small groups. Pray these times would be profitable for our church family.

**LOCAL PRESBYTERY:** East Charlotte Presbyterian Church, Charlotte, NC – Tyler Dirks

## MINISTRY TO MEN DINNER & NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

Invite a friend and join your brothers in Christ for dinner and the NCAA Championship Game on Monday, January 13! Dinner will be first at 6:30pm followed by the game at 8:00pm. Sign up to contribute a main dish, side, drink, or dessert at [ChristCovenant.org](http://ChristCovenant.org).

**SUPPORTED WORKERS OF THE WEEK: JONI & VAUGHN VOLIOUS |** Vaughn is the leader for the staff team at the University of South Carolina. Joni coordinates the advancement team for Campus Outreach Columbia. Pray for Vaughn in his leadership of the staff team. Pray for God to bless Campus Outreach Columbia's Advancement Team as they seek to raise support and be invested in their regional growth. Pray that more students would encounter Christ on the campuses they work on and be changed by Christ.

**PRAY FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH IN CHINA |** Pray for Pastor Wang Yi, leader of Chengdu, China's Early Rain house church, who was tried in secret last week and sentenced to nine years in prison for 'subversion of state power.' Pray for Pastor Yi's strength and ministry while jailed, for his family and congregation to trust in God's good purposes in their persecution, and for God's grace in bringing even members of the Beijing government to salvation.

**UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUP: ALBANIAN IN NORTH MACEDONIAN |** There are no known Christians among the 521,000 Albanian population living in Northern Macedonian. Pray that God will grant His wisdom and favor to missions agencies that are currently focusing on the reaching the Albanians. Pray that legislation restricting the preaching of the Gospel will not be passed.

 [ChristCovenantChurchPCA](https://www.facebook.com/ChristCovenantChurchPCA)

 [christcovenantchurch\\_matthews](https://www.instagram.com/christcovenantchurch_matthews)

 [ccc\\_matthews](https://twitter.com/ccm_matthews)

 [christcovenantchurch](https://www.youtube.com/christcovenantchurch)

## AS WE START A NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Connection Project Team asks that church members be conscious of those around them as we begin our new Sunday School program. Don't hesitate to introduce yourself and help others find their way to their pastoral communities or to the class they wish to attend. If you meet a guest please invite them to join you in your pastoral community and Sunday School class.

We hope all guests will stop by the guest center in the main lobby after morning worship so we can greet you.

## HINGED

Christ Covenant Church is hosting Hinged, the 2020 PCA Women's Conference, January 31 - February 1. Spots are filling up fast, and early registration ends Monday, January 6!

There are Friday and/or Saturday attendance options and reduced registration for high school and college students! For details and registration, visit <https://pcacdm.org/hinged-conferences/>.

If you are interested in being a table hostess on Friday night, please contact Staci Poston at [sposton@christcovenant.org](mailto:sposton@christcovenant.org).

## WOMEN'S SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY & CLASSES

Didn't register for a women's Bible study in the fall? No problem! January is a great time to jump in! There are weekly options meeting at various days, times, and durations (several with childcare)! Please visit our Women's Ministry Bible Study page (<https://christcovenant.org/ministries/women/womens-bible-studies>) for weekly study and short study details and registration.



During Missions Week, the week of February 17th, the Women's Ministry will be hosting our 3rd Annual Cooking For A Cause! This is a time where groups of women meet in people's homes (various dates and times) to prepare freezer meals and pray for missionaries. Would you be willing to open your home to a small group (5-6 ladies) and prepare 3 freezer meals (ingredients and recipes provided) and pray for local ministries? Please contact Staci Poston ([sposton@christcovenant.org](mailto:sposton@christcovenant.org)) to learn more!

## MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT: OUR DEACON'S OFFERING RIGHT TO LIFE MINISTRIES

*Sing to the Lord; praise the Lord! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers.  
Jeremiah 20:13*

During January you may see or hear many updates on the work of organizations across our country who are involved in some aspect of efforts to end the assault on the unborn, often in the guise of a "right to choose." The public culmination of the month's events will be the National March for Life on Friday, January 25, in Washington, DC.

As important as the efforts are in making sure our fellow citizens understand the consequences of laws that remove protections for the unborn, the lifesaving, life-changing work of ministry to women who are at risk of deciding to terminate a pregnancy is done through direct relationships that provide practical help in crisis.

Our deacons have selected Charlotte Pregnancy Resource Center, now a part of the national Human Coalition, as a partner in our church's right to life ministry. As a part of the Human Coalition family of women's care clinics located in America's most abortion dense cities, the Charlotte PRC has as its mission to make abortion unthinkable and unavailable in our city, by reaching and serving one abortion-seeking woman at a time.

Your gift in today's offering will help provide the resources needed to reach more women and help them find the support they need to choose life and find hope. Pray for the staff and volunteers of the Charlotte PRC, the women they serve, and the children whose lives are spared. For more information, visit [www.prccharlotte.com](http://www.prccharlotte.com).

## ELDER & DEACON NOMINATIONS

The Session of our church will receive and consider nominations for the offices of elder and deacon the month of January with the last day to submit nominations on January 31. To be considered, the nominee must be male, a member of our church for at least two years by his election (June 2020), and nominated by two congregation members who are from different families. Nomination forms are available at the Information Desk in the main lobby and the tables outside the worship center doors. Completed forms may be given to a current officer, sent to Pastor Bernie Lawrence, or dropped in the offering. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Bernie Lawrence at [blawrence@christcovenant.org](mailto:blawrence@christcovenant.org) or at 704-708-6110.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*This list shares special one-time and monthly events and the start of weekly programs. See our website for our full calendar and the E-Courier (found on the News webpage) for a complete list of what is coming up this week, along with additional announcements.*

### THIS WEEK (JANUARY 5 - JANUARY 11)

- Jan 5 • New Sunday school trimester begins
- Jan 5 • New Membership class begins (9am)
- Jan 5 • Women's prayer meeting (4:45pm)
- Jan 5 • Timothy Project (5pm)
- Jan 5 • Middle school QUIP (Quarterly Useful Information for Parents) (5pm in CLC 1 & 2)
- Jan 5 • Middle and High school Spring retreat registration open
- Jan 8 • CCYM Lumberjack games (7pm)
- Jan 8 • American Heritage Girls & Trail Life (6:45pm)
- Jan 11 • HisAbilities Speaker Series (9:30am)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Jan 13 • Women's open seminar
- Jan 13 • Men's ministry dinner & NCAA championship game
- Jan 19 • CCYM missions interest meeting
- Jan 21 • Monthly day of prayer
- Jan 26 • Tom Groelsema's installation in evening service
- Jan 27 • Women's open seminar
- Jan 31 • Last day for officer nominations
- Jan 31 - Feb 1 • Women's PCA regional conference: Hinged
- Feb 15 • Women's missions morning
- Feb 15-23 • Missions week
- Mar 27-28 • "I Still Do" marriage conference
- Apr 5 • Church wide Spring lunch