



THE COURIER

LIFE AT CHRIST COVENANT

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 2021

SYMPATHY TO:

Karen Chambers on the loss of her mother, Lu Sween.

Bruce McDonald on the loss of his father, John McDonald.

Kim Simpson on the loss of her mother, Marjorie Bolocanoff.

Chris Williams on the loss of his brother, Jim Williams.

SUNDAY SCHOOL IN JANUARY

We are excited to offer two Sunday School opportunities in January. One is an in-person class on Wednesday nights, and the other is an online class that will begin on January 17. Here is information for the two classes:

THE TECH-WISE FAMILY, BEGINNING WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20

One of the most difficult issues for believers to navigate in this day and age is the use of technology. Whether it be in the realm of parenting our children or personal use, we often wrestle with the proper place of technology in our lives. How do we utilize the benefits of technology while establishing wise boundaries around it? We will explore that question in this series by seeking to identify wise habits and practices that lead to a healthy use of technology. We invite you to come hear teaching and panel discussions and participate in Q and As each Wednesday evening. This is an in-person Sunday School option on Wednesday nights in the high school commons from 7:15pm-8:15pm.

PRINCIPLES & PERSPECTIVES IN EVANGELISM, BEGINNING ONLINE SUNDAY, JANUARY 17

Most churchgoers know that “good Christians” are supposed to evangelize. We know that part of being a Christian is telling people about the good news. Yet, so many of us feel that the hardest thing about being a Christian is telling people about Christ! Why is that? In this 6-week study, we will explore what the Bible says evangelism is and isn’t, how God is sovereign in our evangelism, what our prayer life means in evangelism, and how to share Christ as a part of our everyday lives. As a church, let’s live out Romans 1:16, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes!” This online class will have an introduction video available on Sunday, January 17. The online class begins Sunday, January 24, at 9:00 am.

ELDER & DEACON NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN!

Would you prayerfully consider who you believe could serve our church well as an elder or deacon? Through these offices Christ rules and shepherds his church. All nominees must be male and a member of our church for at least two years by his election (June 2021). The nomination form gives additional attributes of elder and deacon to consider as you are thinking of men in the congregation who will serve our church well. Nominations will be received through the month of January. Forms are available at the information desk in the main lobby of the worship center or online at christcovenant.org/officer-nomination/. Please place completed nomination forms in the box at the information desk. Thank you!

TRANSGENDERISM

THE RESHAPING OF REALITY IN OUR CULTURE

“What had promised to be freedom had in fact become my prison cell... God never let me forget who I was, no matter how hard I tried to forget.” – Laura Perry

All are invited to join us for this free event on Friday, January 29, from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm at Christ Covenant Church in the sanctuary. Laura Perry, who had lived as a man for nine years, will share her story. She came face to face with the tension between her reality and God’s perfect design and now tells her story of repentance, faith, restoration, and discovery of God’s mercy as he pursued her desperate soul.

Additional speakers are our Senior Pastor, Kevin DeYoung, who will speak on “Engaging a gender-confused culture,” and Jim Newheiser, who will speak on “Pursuing our gender-confused loved ones.”

This event is for Biblical counselors, pastors, those struggling with gender confusion, those with loved ones who are struggling with gender confusion, and those who desire a deeper understanding to enter the conversation.

If you plan to attend in person, please sign up at <https://bit.ly/3oxzJji>. If you are unable to attend this event in-person, it will be livestreamed on our Vimeo and YouTube channels.



SENIOR ADULT “THURSDAY” SCHOOL

A new semester began on January 7! The Senior Adult class will be studying “Walking in the Land of the Bible—Creating a Mental Map for Bible Reading.” Weekly classes are held in the worship center from 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm. To attend in person, please register at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0444AAAF2EA2FC1-senior2> or by contacting Jenny Blackmon, ministry administrator, at jblackmon@christcovenant.org or by calling 704-708-6104. Classes will also be recorded and livestreamed. All class notes will be available on Sundays at 9:00 am on christcovenant.org/senior-adult-sunday-school/.

SENIOR ADULT LUNCHEON

All senior adults are invited to join us at the next senior adult luncheon. The luncheon will be Friday, January 15, from 11:45 am – 1:30 pm in the lower CLC. We will have lasagna, salad, bread, and desserts. Both auditoriums in the lower CLC will be used for seating with 30 per room to ensure proper spacing.

To reserve your spot, RSVP by Monday, January 11, on the Sign Up Genius link, <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0444aaaf2ea2fc1-january>, or directly to Jenny Blackmon, ministry administrator, at 704-708-6104 or jblackmon@christcovenant.org. A \$3 donation per person to cover food costs is appreciated.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AT CHRIST COVENANT

Current opportunities at Christ Covenant include:

- Pastor of Evangelism & Mobilization
- Assistant Director of Middle School Ministry
- Assistant Director of High School Ministry

Details: christcovenant.org/aboutus/employment

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT:

BIBLICAL LAY-COUNSELING MINISTRY

The book, *How People Change*, describes 6 common facts found in many churches:

Fact 1: Each week, there are people in our church with a multitude of problems.

Fact 2: The Bible says we have everything we need to help these people (2 Peter 1:3).

Fact 3: People usually seek help first from a friend, family member, or pastor before going to a professional counselor.

Fact 4: These people will get either no help, bad help, or gospel-centered help from that friend, family member, or pastor.

Fact 5: If they don't get meaningful help, they will look elsewhere.

Fact 6: They will seek to help others with whatever they found helpful.

The Biblical Counseling Ministry at Christ Covenant exists to provide gospel-centered help to those in need—“God’s care through God’s people.” It is rooted in the truth that God’s Word is sufficient, authoritative, and relevant for life and godliness (2 Tim 3:16-17, 2 Peter 1:3-4). It is focused on the practical application of the gospel in the trials and issues of life as we seek to become more like Christ. If you often find yourself drawn to those who are hurting and struggling, yet feel inadequate to help or fear giving the wrong answer, then this training may be for you.

Christ Covenant Church is looking to expand our lay-counseling ministry by equipping those who sense God’s call to this important work or are simply looking to be able to provide gospel-centered counsel as you cross paths with those in need. Bob Goudzwaard will be hosting an informational zoom session on Monday, January 18, at 7:00 pm. You can sign-up for this informational session at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0444AAAF2EA2FC1-biblical1> and details will be provided. Have questions, email Bob Goudzwaard (bgoudzwaard@christcovenant.org).

JOSÉ PORTILLO’S ORDINATION

We are excited to announce that a significant milestone will be reached in 2021 at Christ Covenant, the launching of Vive Charlotte, our newest church plant. José and Anna Portillo have been called and are continuing to prepare for the launching of Vive Charlotte in the fall of 2021 around the University area of Charlotte. Vive Charlotte is a church plant of our own presbytery and therefore a very important service will be held at Christ Covenant during our evening worship service on January 17, at 6:00 pm. José will be ordained at this service, commissioned, and sent by the elders of Christ Covenant, Uptown, and Cross Park churches. Each of these churches has been a vital supporting part of José development and support. We invite you to this service to support José and Anna as they leave us this spring for more focused gathering work with a José to launch their first service this fall.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

This list shares notable events for this week. See our website at christcovenant.org. Weekly and monthly prayer guides can be found at christcovenant.org/prayer.

THIS WEEK (JANUARY 10-16, 2021)

Jan 10 • In-person morning worship at 9:00 am*

Jan 10 • In-person and livestream morning worship at 10:45 am*

Jan 10 • In-person and livestream evening worship at 6:00 pm*

Jan 13 • Epic and Link

Jan 14 • Senior adult “Thursday” school

* Those with asterisks require signups prior to event/worship.

WATCHING OUR BUDGET

Thank you for your tithes and gifts to all of the ministries of Christ Covenant. Please continue to pray for God’s provision throughout 2021.

<i>Inflow 1/1/21 – 1/3/21</i>	<i>Actual \$</i>	<i>Budget \$</i>	<i>Difference \$</i>	<i>% (-) or +</i>
Operating Budget	37,119	102,000	-64,881	-63.6%
Faith Promise Budget	2,842	4,500	-1,658	-36.8%