Sunday – Our Families and Neighbors - Continue to pray this week for families in our church and community who are concerned for their adult children and grandchildren who are living as prodigals. Pray for God’s power to bring them freedom from addictions, mental challenges, and rebellious lifestyles. Pray for family members who are discouraged and at a loss for ways to help. Pray for God’s mercy in bringing true freedom through faith in Christ. Pray for the wisdom and availability of Christian counselors and Christian treatment programs including those who offer residential care. Praise God for new beginnings!

Monday - Our Supported Workers of the Week – Bud and Barbara Speck serving at Wycliffe Global Alliance - Bud and Barbara serve with Wycliffe Bible Translators. Bud is the communications consultant for the Wycliffe Global Alliance, serving the nine Bible translation organizations in Europe. Barbara is serving full time in intercessory prayer. Pray for the Specks and for the Wycliffe Global Alliance Bible Translation organizations in Russia and the countries surrounding the Ukraine. They are in great need of our prayer support. Pray for Bud’s health, that the Lord would continue to heal a bump on his vocal chords without needing further surgery.

Tuesday – Healthcare Workers - Pray for our healthcare workers who continue to deal with covid care. While the updates have dropped out of the headlines, the number of active cases in the US far exceeds the number during the same time period last year. Pray for nurses and doctors who are weary and know that they will be caring for infected patients for longer than they could have expected. Pray that God will give them strength and skill as they work. Pray patients and their loved ones will care for the people around them by following their own doctors’ recommendations as they go through quarantine and recovery. Pray God will use this pandemic to teach us our dependence on him.

Wednesday – Our Leaders in Government – Pray for the women and men in our church family, our community and our nation who are sworn to protect and serve as police officers, border patrols, sheriffs and state troopers, marshals, and federal agents. Pray for those who even this week put themselves in danger so they might rescue others. Pray for the families who have lost their heroes or care for those with life-altering injuries. Pray that we would remember and respect all who serve in law enforcement and pray for them often.

Thursday – The Persecuted Church & Unreached People Groups

Persecuted Church - We praise God for the safe return of Mike and Connie Miller from their extended trip to Africa. Christ Covenant has had a heart for ministry on this continent over many decades. We have learned much and have so much more to learn as we seek God’s direction for how we might be a part of sharing the gospel in the ways that will bring God the glory as we see his kingdom expand. The World Watch list of the most dangerous places on earth to be a Christian includes eighteen African countries. The level of persecution and hatred of believers is hard for us to fathom, but the price of declaring faith in Christ or daring to attend a church service is quite literally a life and death matter. We must begin praying now for God’s wisdom and protection as we prepare to support ministries in unfamiliar places with new challenges. Pray for our faithfulness in following God’s lead.

Unreached People Group - Bandoumu in Gabon: The Bandoumu people live throughout the regions of the southern Republic of the Congo and southern Gabon. A majority are either livestock herders or farmers and their villages are often in remote areas without access to decent roads, making traveling to these communities a challenge. The Bandoumu people maintain an ethnic religion deeply rooted in their cultural identity. Changing one’s religion in their community is viewed as a betrayal to their people. Pray that missionaries would be able to access these communities amidst the travel difficulties. Pray for the completion of the Bible in the Ndumu language, which has already begun. Pray that the Bandoumu people would be open to the message of the gospel and that the Lord would equip missionaries with wisdom to overcome any spiritual hurdles that hinder this people group from coming to Christ.
Friday – Our Local Ministry Partners:

**Local Presbytery:** Cross Park Church, Charlotte, NC – Pastor Jeff Hardy

**Local Ministry: Changed Choices:** Please pray for the upcoming trauma healing retreat, “Healing the Wounded Heart” that will take place on August 26-28. Pray that God will move with deep healing in the heart of those who attend. Pray that the volunteers will be able to return on site to MCDC in the near future, as they are currently meeting virtually. Pray for each of these women, as some have recently suffered the loss of family members, that the Lord would bring comfort and healing during this difficult time. Pray also for the women who are struggling with substance abuse and are entering rehab programs, that God would break their bondage to their addictions.

Saturday – Our Pastors and Staff – Pray this week for Senior Pastor Brian Peterson and the congregation of Surfside Beach Presbyterian Church as they begin to recover from fire damage caused by a lightning strike on July 4, 2022. Primary fire and water damage was concentrated in the center of the building, below the bell tower area, but the sanctuary was also received extensive water and smoke damage. The church is planning to use the sanctuary for worship while repairs are made. Pray for their encouragement, for their witness to the community as they trust God’s provision, and their opportunity to share the gospel with detractors who have commented publicly. Pray that Brian and his family will be encouraged by the prayers of their friends here at Christ Covenant.

*Your pastors and staff are praying for you! Send your confidential prayer requests to prayer@christcovenant.org.*