



THE COURIER

LIFE AT CHRIST COVENANT

SUNDAY, MAY 7, 2023

SYMPATHY TO:

Chris Hillesheim on the loss of her husband and our member and elder, Rick Hillesheim.

Diana Sylvester on the loss of her brother, Tom Smidt.

WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS

Are you a guest visiting with us today, or did you meet a guest this morning? We encourage all our guests to stop by our guest kiosks in either the main or north lobby. We have a free gift for you and would like to meet you! We have an online guest card we invite you to fill out at christcovenant.org/online-guest-card. You can also scan the QR code below to fill out the online guest card. There are also guest cards located in the pews in the sanctuary you can fill out and place in the offering. If you do not have a Bible, we invite you to take a Bible from one of the pews to take home with you today. We are so glad you are here to worship with us today!



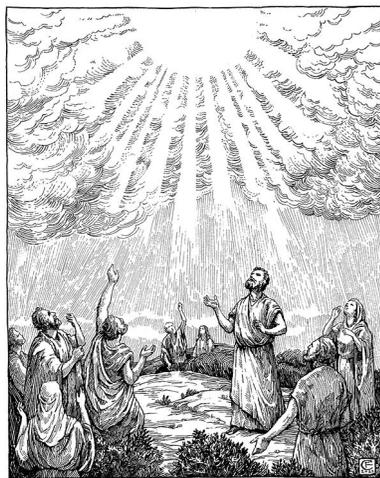
'O NIGHTS'

CHRIST COVENANT OUTREACH NIGHTS TUESDAY, MAY 16

Everyone is invited to join us on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month for Christ Covenant Outreach Nights, called O Nights. Our next one is Tuesday, May 16, from 7:00 pm - 8:15 pm. One O Night per month will be outreach/evangelism in the community with people going into different sections of the community to share their faith. The other O Night each month will have some time of training to equip our people, but for those that are comfortable with evangelism and don't need the training, they will still have the option of going out to do surveys/evangelism.

Our desire is to provide different opportunities where we can learn more about our community while at the same time care for people, take steps of faith to engage with others, and to avail ourselves to opportunities to share the gospel. It also gives us the opportunity to serve together, pray for our community, and see God work in another way.

We will meet in the south lobby of the worship center. If you do not feel comfortable walking, we would love for you to participate by praying on our campus. Please bring your small group, family, etc. and join us! If you have any questions, contact Michelle Gustavson at mgustavson@christcovenant.org.



ASCENSION CELEBRATION CONCERT SUNDAY EVENING, MAY 21

On Sunday evening, May 21, at 6:00 pm, it will be our joy to honor Jesus Christ as the ascended King and to give thanks for the gift of the Spirit. We hope everyone will invite a friend and then join us for an evening of praise and worship, sacred music, spirituals, and more. Please pick up invitations on the tables outside the sanctuary to use as you invite friends, neighbors, and family!

COMBINED SUNDAY SCHOOL SUNDAY, MAY 28

WOMEN'S MINISTRY SUMMER BIBLE STUDIES

Registration is open for women's summer Bible studies! Don't miss this great opportunity to be in the Word and to have fellowship with other women during the summer months. To learn and to register, visit <https://christcovenant.org/womensbiblestudies/>.



We hope you will make plans to join us for a combined Sunday School with middle and high school students and all adults on Sunday morning, May 28, at 9:00 am in the sanctuary. Our special guest speaker is Paul McNulty, President of Grove City College, who is speaking on "Faith, Calling, and Christian Education: A Conversation with Paul McNulty."

The Honorable Paul J. McNulty is the ninth president of Grove City College. Prior to returning to his alma mater, McNulty spent over 30 years in Washington, D.C., as an attorney in public service and private practice. You can learn more about our guest speaker at <https://www.gcc.edu/Home/Our-Story/Leadership-Teams/Office-of-the-President>.

RECOGNIZING 2023 GRADUATES

We want to publish the names, schools and plans for the immediate future (i.e., college, military, career, postgrad) of our high school, college, and post-grad members of the Class of 2023 so our church family can celebrate these milestones with you. Please send your graduate's information (name, graduating from, going to, degree, military) to communications@christcovenant.org. We will publish all grads and their future plans in the courier and recognize our graduates during morning worship on May 28. Deadline to submit graduation information for the courier is Tuesday, May 23.

A NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY IS COMING!

We are working on an updated directory for all Christ Covenant church members. Each member will have their individual picture, first and last name, email address, and children's names with ages listed in the directory.

If you would like to include an updated picture in the directory, please send an email with your name and picture to communications@christcovenant.org. The last time we produced a church directory was in 2019, so please consider sending in an updated picture! If you prefer not to have your picture or any of the personal information listed above in the directory, please send an email to communications@christcovenant.org. Information and photos are needed by Wednesday, May 24, 2023.

SAVE THE DATE! CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, JUNE 4

The Session has called a congregational meeting for the purpose of voting on officer candidates and returning sabbatical officers. It will be held on Sunday, June 4, immediately following morning worship services. Please note that those who attend morning worship in-person on Sunday, June 4, will be voting on these nominees. We will not have online or advance voting available. We look forward to your participation in electing new officers. Candidate biographies will be available to review by late May.

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT: DEACONS' SPECIAL OFFERING JONI AND FRIENDS

Our deacons' special offering today is for Joni and Friends. Joni & Friends is an international ministry founded in 1979 to address the needs of families affected by disabilities. This ministry traces its roots to one day in 1967 when 17-year-old Joni Eareckson Tada's life was changed forever in a diving accident. In God's providence, Joni's own story of that accident, her quadriplegia, and her search for God's purpose became a best-selling book. The book was followed by a movie reaching audiences in theaters, church halls, and homes around the country. God had given Joni a platform that allowed her to talk about God's love for his children, and a vision for using that platform to share God's love with people who share her life-altering challenges.

Today, with more than forty years of experience and an international reputation for excellence, Joni & Friends focuses on advancing the disability ministry and changing the church and communities around the world. Their mission is to communicate the gospel and equip Christ-honoring churches worldwide to evangelize and disciple people affected by disabilities. Their record of service gives them a voice on issues that affect people with disabilities.

Here in Charlotte, the Joni & Friends regional office is a welcomed partner in our own church's ministry. We are grateful for the opportunity to share their resources with our families. Those resources include Wheels for the World, Family Retreats, International Family Retreats, Cause for Life global missions and internships, church engagement, the Christian Institute on Disability, and media programming including Joni's radio program and the weekly Joni & Friends ministry podcast. We appreciate their engagement with Christ Covenant, including their input on ways to make our church more welcoming and our campus more accessible.

Your gift today will be used by Joni & Friends to expand ministries to families and individuals who do not have the means to take part in family retreats and to expand the availability of wheelchairs and other equipment that improve their quality of life. Pray for Joni & Friends evangelistic outreach and mercy ministries. Pray for Joni Eareckson Tada and her husband, Ken, as they work closely with Joni's doctors to monitor her health concerns. Pray for her physical strength and her wisdom in knowing how to best use her time on a limited schedule. To learn more about Joni & Friends visit: www.joniandfriends.org.

Please place all special/monthly communion offering gifts in an envelope (found in pews) and label it 'Special Communion Offering' and include the name of the ministry before placing your gift in one of the tithe boxes located inside the sanctuary at our main doors in the north, south and toward the main lobby. You can also give online at christcovenant.org/members/giving. Thank you for your gift!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

This list shares special events and various 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 16 • O Night - Christ Covenant Church Outreach
 May 21 • Ascension Celebration Concert
 May 28 • Combined Sunday School
 May 29 • Church offices closed for Memorial Day
 June 4 • Congregational Meeting, Officer elections
 June 11 • New Officer Installation

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 2023.

<i>Inflow 1/1/23 – 4/30/23</i>	<i>Actual \$</i>	<i>Budget \$</i>	<i>Difference \$</i>	<i>% (-) or +</i>
Operating Budget	2,332,081	2,143,000	189,081	8.8%
Faith Promise Budget	226,093	120,300	105,793	87.9%