



THE COURIER

LIFE AT CHRIST COVENANT

SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2023

Christ Covenant Church is richly blessed to have pastoral interns that serve alongside our staff while they are here studying at Reformed Theological Seminary (RTS). Join us in thanking the Lord and in praying for these pastoral interns who have completed their internship and are beginning new chapters in their lives.

JOHN ROBERT BIGGS



John Robert, Mary, and little Annie Lou moved to Charlotte in July of 2017 and have attended Christ Covenant since. John Robert started working on his Master of Divinity in preparation for pastoral ministry in the Spring of 2018. He has served as an intern for five years and on the CCYM staff for almost two years. During that time the Biggs added four more children (Gilbert, Francis, Dorothy, and Elaine), and have felt the Lord's goodness through the support of his people at Christ Covenant. John Robert will be serving as the Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) Campus Minister at Oklahoma State University starting June 1. The Biggs recognize the bittersweet nature of going out from Christ Covenant but trust that it is much more a sending than a leaving.

CALEB JOHNSON



Caleb grew up in Augusta, GA and received his bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Georgia College & State University. He was able to work closely with the ministry of Campus Outreach at GCSU after college during his initial career in restaurant management. In the summer of 2018, he moved to Charlotte to pursue a Master of Divinity at Reformed Theological Seminary. After graduation, Caleb will continue to work full time at Christ Covenant as the Small Groups Coordinator, as well as the Young Adults and 18|22 College Ministry. If you're interested in getting involved in any of these ministries, he would love to hear from you!

ALBERTO PAREDES



Alberto (MD, 2017; Mexico) married Laura in 2018. Church and family confirmed his call to ministry when God opened doors at RTS Charlotte and Christ Covenant as a pastoral intern. Alberto and Laura have two children: Pía and Lucas. The state of Hispanic and Latin American theological education led Alberto to consider further education to serve as pastor-scholar in due time. Alberto and Laura started "Enviados" in 2018—a resource ministry with now 250+ theological articles in Spanish. He has contributed to academic and church projects both locally and overseas. Having completed his MDiv and MATS, he was offered a place as a PhD student in Theology and Religious studies at Cambridge (UK) under Dr. Peter Williams. Alberto and his family are raising funds to continue serving the church now and in the future.

DANIEL POLLORENA



Daniel has been accepted into a PhD program at Universität Wien (University of Vienna) to begin in October 2023. His research focus will be in the field of New Testament. As they navigate the logistics of what lies ahead, Daniel, Katie and their son, David, ask for your prayers so that the Lord may provide all that is needed. The Pollorena's are grateful to God for this beautiful church.

BEN TRAYNOR



A (non-golfing) native of Scotland, Ben lived and worked in both Edinburgh and Aberdeen before he and his family moved to Charlotte in the fall of 2019 to study for an MDiv at Reformed Theological Seminary. Upon graduating, Ben and his family will return to Scotland where Ben will look to serve in full-time pastoral ministry. Ben is married to Sarah and they have four sons and one daughter.

RECOGNIZING 2023 GRADUATES

We will 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. 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 are available on the tables outside the sanctuary.



ASCENSION CELEBRATION CONCERT SUNDAY EVENING, MAY 21

This 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



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>.

MONTHLY DAY OF PRAYER | TUESDAY, MAY 23

All are invited to participate in the Monthly Day of Prayer on Tuesday, May 23. There are two ways you can participate. One is to come in-person for your prayer time to room 105 in the worship center anytime between 7:30 am - 7:00 pm. Another option is to pick a time slot and pray where you are, whether that's at home or at work. You can sign up and learn more at <https://christcovenant.org/members/prayer/>.

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 21 • Ascension Celebration Concert
- May 23 • Monthly Day of Prayer
- May 24 • 18/22 Kick-off Cookout
- May 28 • Combined Sunday School
- May 29 • Church offices closed for Memorial Day
- June 3 • Ministry to Men Fellowship Breakfast
- June 4 • Congregational Meeting, Officer elections
- June 6 • O Night - Christ Covenant Church Outreach
- June 11 • New Officer Ordination

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.

Inflow 1/1/23 – 5/14/23	Actual \$	Budget \$	Difference \$	% (-) or +
Operating Budget	2,621,540	2,379,000	242,540	10.2%
Faith Promise Budget	244,022	128,700	115,322	89.6%