



# THE COURIER

## LIFE AT CHRIST COVENANT

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6, 2023

### CONGRATULATIONS TO:

James and Lauren Fitzgerald  
on the birth of their daughter,  
Olivia James Fitzgerald.

Joel & Maddie May  
on the birth of their son,  
Barrett Joel May.

### SYMPATHY TO:

Candi Brastow on the loss of her  
grandfather, Grady Marshburn.

Roy Padgett on the loss of his  
mother, Elizabeth "Bibby" Padgett.

## 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](http://christcovenant.org/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!



## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

Women's fall Bible study registration is now open! There are options for daytime and evening studies as well as weekly and monthly studies. Childcare is offered for certain daytime studies. Visit the Women's Ministry webpage at <https://christcovenant.org/womensbiblestudies/> to learn more.

## SMALL GROUPS SIGN-UPS

Fall Small Groups registration opens today through August 27! Grab a promotion card and come by the information tables in either the main or north lobby to hear more! You can sign up to join a small group by scanning the QR code to the right or by visiting [christcovenant.org/smallgroups](http://christcovenant.org/smallgroups).



At a large and growing church like ours, small groups provide a vital avenue for connecting in fellowship and sharing life with one another as we grow together in Christ. A small group can help a big church feel small. As always, feel free to reach out to our small groups coordinator, Caleb Johnson, with any questions at [calebjohnson@christcovenant.org](mailto:calebjohnson@christcovenant.org) or 704-814-1091.

## REGISTRATION OPEN FOR NEW MEMBER CLASS

The New Member Class is for adults and students 9th grade and above who wish to join Christ Covenant Church. Our Pastors teach this class, which reviews Christ Covenant's philosophy of ministry, the reformed faith, the Presbyterian form of government, the vows of church membership, and other topics pertinent to church membership. This class is required for those seeking to join Christ Covenant Church. Our next New Member Class will be held during Sunday School beginning August 27. The class will be twelve-weeks long meeting from 9:00 am – 10:20 am. If you are interested in attending, please contact Michelle Gustavson at [mgustavson@christcovenant.org](mailto:mgustavson@christcovenant.org) to register by August 21.

## GATHERING ABOUT MINISTRY TO AFGHAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY - SUNDAY, AUGUST 6

Over the last one and a half years, Christ Covenant Church has had the privilege of seeing God bless the care we as a church have extended to the Afghan refugee community. Come hear and celebrate what the Lord has done and is doing through this outreach ministry and maybe even how you can get involved. Join us for an informational/celebratory gathering on August 6, at 12:30 pm, after morning worship in the Community Life Center rooms 5 & 6 (CLC). A light lunch will be provided.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL KICK-OFF | AUGUST 27

We are having a combined Sunday School with all the adults in the sanctuary for our Sunday School Kick-off. All middle and high school students will meet in the lower level of the Community Life Center (CLC). All children from newborn to fifth grade will go to their new classes. Parents can drop off their children before coming to the sanctuary.

Do not miss this exciting kick-off to learn how we can "Gather & Grow" together as a church family. We will have a time to gather for fellowship and refreshments in the lobbies of the worship center before the adult Sunday School begins, and we will have a time to grow together as we hear from our Senior Pastor Kevin DeYoung and other staff about the vision of Christ Covenant Church's Sunday School.

Regular classes begin September 3, 2023, and go through November 19, 2023. Class information is forthcoming.

# Mission Trip Spotlight - Sunday, August 13

All are invited to hear from the team who recently returned from a mission trip to Kenya on Sunday, August 13, 2023, at 9:00 am, in the Community Life Center rooms 5 & 6 (CLC). The team will share about their experience working with one of our supported workers, Imbumi Makuku. Come and join us for some light refreshments and to listen to the amazing stories of God's faithfulness in Kenya!

## Youth Volunteer Info Meeting

Are you interested in assisting the families of Christ Covenant in the process of discipling the next generation of God's people? The youth department wants to partner with you in that! All adult members who are interested in serving with the youth ministry are invited to two gatherings for the purpose of connecting with other volunteers, hearing about how God is working in our students, and learning how you can be part of the discipleship process. We will meet in the lower Community Life Center on August 9, from 6:00-7:30 pm, for an information meeting and August 23, from 6:00-7:30 pm for a Leader Equipping Meeting. Spread the word and use the QR code to get more information and to RSVP!



## Youth Families Open House

All of our families that have students in 6th-12th grade are invited to an "Open House" Breakfast Potluck on August 20, from 9:30-10:30 am in the Community Life Center (CLC). Whether you are brand new to the church or have been here your whole life, our staff would love to connect with you, and give you all a chance to connect with other youth families! We will spend a few minutes recapping our summer, introducing our staff, talking through our ministry goals, and giving information about this upcoming year's schedule. Spread the word and use the QR code to RSVP and sign up to bring a shareable treat!



# Ministry Highlight Deacons' Special Offering RTS Partnership

This morning our deacons are asking us to prayerfully consider a gift to the Reformed Theological Seminary (RTS) Partnership. Today's special offering is designated for seminary scholarships to assist new and current students with the cost of their education at Reformed Theological Seminary (RTS).

These scholarships make it possible for gifted believers to become seminary students and develop as future leaders who are trained and mentored by professors who honor God's Word. These funds are vital in removing obstacles for current students, and they are critical for the health and growth of the next generation of Christian leaders.

We need more pastors and professors, writers and speakers, teachers and counselors who believe that the Bible is true and know how to share that truth with anyone. We need young leaders who have been equipped to minister in a world that is hostile to Christianity. We need dedicated students and seminary graduates who are called to careers in Christian service. We need committed believers who will surround seminarians with prayer and loving support.

Your gift today will help RTS fulfill its mission of preparing students to fill all the roles the church will need in the days to come. Your gift will be used by God first to encourage each scholarship recipient, then to touch thousands of people who will be affected by the work of these students over a lifetime of ministry. To learn more about RTS and opportunities for partnership please visit [www.rts.edu](http://www.rts.edu).

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](http://christcovenant.org/members/giving). Thank you for your gift!

## Prayer for Our Covenant Children Sunday Evening, August 20

The pastors and elders of Christ Covenant Church hope you will join us for a special time of prayer for all our children and college students. This special time of prayer will take place during the Sunday evening worship service on August 20, at 6:00 pm. During the school year, our leadership will refer to these cards often as they pray for children, students, and their parents. As always, each request will be handled confidentially.

Prayer cards can be found in the worship center outside all sanctuary doors. You can also fill out the online version of the prayer card at [christcovenant.org/prayer-for-our-covenant-children-2023/](http://christcovenant.org/prayer-for-our-covenant-children-2023/).

## Calendar of Events

*This list shares special events and various weekly programs. See our website for our full calendar of what is coming up this week, along with additional announcements.*

- August 6 • Gathering about Ministry to Afghan Refugee Community
- August 13 • Mission Trip Spotlight
- August 15 • O Nights - Christ Covenant Church Outreach
- August 16 • Music Ministry Kick-off
- August 20 • Youth ministry open house and breakfast
- August 20 • Prayer for our Covenant Children during evening worship
- August 21 • Women's Ministry Welcome Dinner for RTS Ladies
- August 27 • Fall Sunday School Kick-off

## 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 – 7/30/23	Actual \$	Budget \$	Difference \$	% (-) or +
Operating Budget	3,873,774	3,654,500	219,274	6.0%
Faith Promise Budget	314,537	193,180	121,537	62.82%