



# THE COURIER

## LIFE AT CHRIST COVENANT

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023**

### CHRIST COVENANT WELCOMES NEW INTERNS

We are excited to have interns the Lord has brought to Christ Covenant. Some began serving in Spring 2023, and some interns have started serving this fall. Join us in welcoming them, getting to know them, and praying for them and their families.

#### CLAY ANDERSON



Clay grew up in Greenville, SC and was raised to love Christ, good books, mountains, and presbyterian polity. He met his wife, Delaney, at Southside Christian High School, which was a lot like Covenant Day except with a better football team and a worse Bible curriculum. Clay studied economics and political science at Clemson. In college, you could find him leading campus tours, worshipping with Reformed University Fellowship (RUF), or playing volleyball. Clay began his M.Div. at Reformed Theological Seminary (RTS) in 2021.

Clay also serves Christ Covenant as Assistant Director for Middle School Ministry. Before joining the staff here, Clay interned at Clemson Presbyterian Church (PCA) and worked for Reformed Youth Ministries (RYM) leading summer conferences.

#### JOHANNES DAMASCHKE



Johannes is from Southwestern Germany and moved to Charlotte in 2021 with his lovely French wife, Emilie. After high school he spent a year doing voluntary work in England. He studied at the Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz and received a Bachelor of Arts in American Studies (major) and History (minor). During his time at university, he was also a student at Mississippi College for a year. Johannes and Emilie have been sent out to be trained for ministry by Christ Church of Wiesbaden, an international church of the PCA in the Frankfurt area. After finishing his Master of Divinity, Johannes wants to return there to assist in raising a German congregation. His desire is to see Reformed churches established in his native country.

#### MATTHEW KIRK



Matthew is happily married to Caroline and the proud father of Archibald, Beatrix, and Cedric. He grew up in Northern Ireland until he went to Durham University in the North of England where he studied History and Politics as an undergraduate. Matthew went on to earn a Masters in Early Modern History at the same University, and then spent four years working for a church in the heart of Durham city. Initially, he served in student ministry and children's ministry, he later worked more specifically with international students. Following a few years working in Business Development and World Heritage Fundraising, Matthew moved to Leeds to explore the call to ministry and came under care of the International Presbyterian Church in the UK. Matthew and his family moved to Charlotte in July 2021 in order to study and pursue a Masters of Divinity at RTS.

#### ZAC LEACH



Zac is from England and is married to Kate, and they have two young children, Lydia and Barnabas. Before coming to Charlotte, he worked in ministry for a small church plant in Leeds, Yorkshire for four years. He is currently under care with the International Presbyterian Church. In 2018, he graduated from Durham University in England with an undergraduate degree in Biological Sciences. On completing his RTS degree, his plan is to move back to the UK and enter into full-time pastoral ministry.

#### NATHAN MCNEELY



Nathan was born and raised in Houston, TX. He stayed in town for college to attend the University of Houston. Nathan became involved with Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) during his freshman year and embraced the Reformed faith. It was there that the Lord began to stir up his heart for pastoral ministry. After graduating in May 2018, Nathan served RUF as an intern at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln before heading to Charlotte in August 2020 to attend Reformed Theological Seminary. He hopes to become a teaching elder in the PCA upon graduating in May of 2024 with his MDiv and MACC (Christian Counseling). In his spare time (when he can find it!), Nathan loves cooking/baking, concerts, traveling, playing musical instruments, spending time with friends, and playing a mean game of Scrabble.

## BEN PREISER



Ben and his family are from the state of Michigan. He met his wife Alyssa while both were studying biochemistry at Michigan State University and attending University Reformed Church (URC) in East Lansing, Michigan. They were married in 2015 and their first son, Calvin, was born in 2020, with their second son, Sebastian, arriving in 2022. Ben worked in campus ministry at Michigan State for five years from 2014-2019 before the Preisers moved to Charlotte to pursue education at Reformed Theological Seminary. They hope to return to Michigan after graduation to help with church planting.

## WALKER ROSE



Walker was born and raised in Hot Springs, Arkansas. He graduated from Oklahoma State University with a degree in Human Development and Family Science. He met his wife, Shelby, while working at a summer camp as counselors. Though Shelby attended the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, they dated long distance for two years before graduating and getting married. In 2022 they welcomed their daughter, Magnolia Mae, into the world. Prior to moving to Charlotte and enrolling at Reformed Theological Seminary, Walker completed a two-year internship with Reformed University Fellowship at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Walker and Shelby are excited to serve the Lord, and his people at Christ Covenant Church.

### SYMPATHY TO:

Alex DeBoer on the loss of her father, Rick Prucker.

## CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT

During Sunday School this morning, all our children from two years-old to fifth grade are learning about creation from *The Biggest Story Bible Storybook* curriculum, from the lesson "From Bad to Worse," on Genesis 3-4. The focus verse for the week is Romans 5:12, "Just as sin came into the world through one man (Adam), and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned." If you sit near a family with young children, please take a moment to ask the children to share what they learned in Sunday School with you!

## MOM'S MEET UP MONDAY, SEPT. 18

All moms are invited to join the children's ministry staff for Mom's Meet Up! This is a time for moms to chat with each other and build relationships while serving the church! This is a wonderful opportunity to get out and share life with other moms and bless our children's ministry at the same time. We meet in the B building in room 101 on the 3rd Monday of each month from 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm. We hope you will join us this Monday, September 18. Have questions? Contact Amy at [awallace@christcovenant.org](mailto:awallace@christcovenant.org).

## FALL PHOTOS & FUN FESTIVAL THIS SATURDAY, SEPT. 23

We hope you are inviting your friends and neighbors in the community to our outreach event, Fall Photos & Fun Festival, this Saturday, September 23, from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm. We also hope you are making plans to come and join us for this fun-filled day!

We are asking all Christ Covenant members to refrain from signing up for the photography time slots so that these photography spaces are available for our guests, visitors, and those we are reaching out to in the community who are not part of Christ Covenant Church. We hope you will invite someone that you are praying for and hopefully this outreach is an opportunity for you to care for your guests and to build good will for an opportunity to share the gospel.

Invitation cards for you to use can be found on all the tables going into the sanctuary. We also have yard signs for you to pick up and put in your yard! These can be found at the south lobby book nook. Have questions, contact Michelle at [mgustavson@christcovenant.org](mailto:mgustavson@christcovenant.org).

## 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.*

Sept. 18 • Senior Adults Joy Singers begin  
Sept. 18 • Mom's Meet Up with Children's Ministry  
Sept. 19 • O Night - Christ Covenant Outreach Night  
Sept. 19 • Caregivers support group begins  
Sept. 22 • Senior Adult Fall Kickoff Lunch  
Sept. 22 • Men's Monthly Golf Outing  
Sept. 23 • Fall Photos and Fun Festival  
Sept. 26 • Monthly Day of Prayer  
Oct. 3-6 • Senior Adult Retreat at Bonclarken  
Oct. 6 • First Friday Fellowship  
Oct. 14 • HisAbilities Respite Night  
Nov. 11-12 • Faithful Conference with Carl Trueman  
Nov. 12 & 19 • Combined Sunday School

### 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 – 9/10/23	Actual \$	Budget \$	Difference \$	% (-) or +
Operating Budget	4,509,023	4,379,900	129,123	2.9%
Faith Promise Budget	343,453	235,936	107,517	45.57%