



THE COURIER

LIFE AT CHRIST COVENANT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2023 | MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Thank you to everyone who helped make our sanctuary beautiful this Christmas season with your purchased poinsettia either in honor or in memory of someone. Thank you also to our hard-working Operations Department for making our entire worship center beautiful with all of the Christmas decorations! Poinsettias may be picked up either following the morning worship service or the Christmas Eve Candlelight service.

We give these poinsettias in honor of

Stephanie Bennett
by Donn and Dottie Toney
Jerry & Ilse Cauble
Lanier & Karen Ellis
Keith, Laura & Rayna Hamilton
by Dr. & Mrs. James Lemmons
Cheri Daly
by Cathy Hargett
Peggy Dear
by Rev. & Mrs. Larry Elenbaum
Peggy Dear
by Scoggin Jones
Christ Covenant Leadership
by Cathy Helms

The Gidney Family
by Alona Weddine
Jim & Kathy Herrin
by Elisabeth Herrin
Lane Jones, Loving Husband and Father
by Tracy Jones, Taylor, Alex, Keller, Piper, and Maizy
Luann Kasimir
Pat Moore
by Carol Zachary
Kendal Team-Marguerite Hogan, Angela Pacey, Julie Allison, Emilie Damachke
by Carol Zachary

Alyson Massengill
by David, Owen, Liam, Noah Massengill
Claudia Pisano
by Friends
Jane Price
by Jimmy Price
Elinda Stone
Jim & Margaret Woods
by the Stone Family
Mrs. Linda Stone
by Jim & Margaret Woods
Donn & Dottie Toney
by Ross & Stephanie Bennett

We give these poinsettias in loving memory of

Barbara, Buddy and Gordon
Our Parents and Brothers
Ron and Chuck
by Fred & Lisa Kinney
Nathanael
by Gramsy and Grumps
Elias and Rosabella Abalajon, Rosalie's parents
James and Jacque Kirkley, Darrell's parents
by Darrell and Rosalie Kirkley
Jean Achenbach, My Mother
by Julia Doejaaren
Lorraine Adair
Luke Day
Heather Hoy
by Gayle and Tim Hoy
Joe and Martha Angerman
by Marianne Alexander
Paul Baron, Husband of Susan Baron
Pat McKissick, Beloved Husband and Father
by Sara and Lilly McKissick, Zach and Caroline McDonald
Hank & Joan Botzko
by Susan Botzko
Dr. Geo. Boutieller, Beloved Father
Mrs. Beverly Van Dusen, Beloved Mother
by the Van Dusen Family
Bob Branson, My Husband
by Dot Branson
Dr. and Mrs. David Cayer
Thomas and Erma Roach
by David and Karen Cayer
Mr. and Mrs. Harold A. Chun
Mr. and Mrs. James R Woods, Sr.
by Jim & Margaret Woods
Doug Clark, My Husband
by Tricia Clark
Burr and Pauline Cleary
Commie and Essie Hayes
by Dan and Sandra Hayes

Dave & Ginny Cullen
by Tara & Ken Dabbs
Marion and Lee Daugherty, Jr.
Jean and Buddy Parker, Sr.
by Buddy and Liz Parker
Richard "Dick" Davis
by Toni Grove
Martha Depp
by Fred and Jean Depp
David Elliott, Our Dad
by Meghan and Jonathan Elliott
Janie Harris Ellison
by John William Murray
Jack and Peggy Everidge
Chappell and Julia Rhino, Our Loving Parents
by Danny and Rhonda Rhino
Mary "Ruth" Eudy
Helen Virginia Goehring
by Joshua Brosius
Evelyn Guinn, My Wife
by Bob Guinn
Marion Helms
by Cathy Helms
Post and Herrin Grandparents
by Elisabeth Herrin
Rick Hillesheim
by Christine Hillesheim
Martha Holloway - Patty's sweet Mother and a faithful prayer warrior steadfastly pointing her children to Jesus.
Emmett and Evelyn Marion - Steve's parents who left the legacy and blessing of loving each other completely for 69 wonderful years.
by Patty and Steve Marion
Anne, My Mom and Best Friend
by Esther-Elaine Scott
Jimmy & Evelyn Johnson
by Judy Salter
Darrell D. Jones
by Shirley Norwood Jones

Harold Mark Jones, Loving Brother, Brother-In-Law, Uncle and Coach
Heather Klein Scullion and JJ Scullion
by Lane and Tracy Jones, Taylor, Alex, Keller, Piper and Maizy
Mark Jones, Beloved Husband
by Beth Jones
James B. Kilgo
by Linda Kilgo
Rona Kitts
by Jack and Marni Arnold
Jim Lanier, Janie's Brother
by Mo & Janie UpDeGraff
Chase Lipscomb
by Celia Flock
David Marshall
by Harriet Marshall
Mike McClellan, the "Candyman"
by Phyllis McClellan
Pat McKissick
by the Covenant Group
George and Marian Neeb
Raul and Pilar Quinteiro, Our Parents
by David and Laura Elliott-Quinteiro
Anna Razuvanova
Vladimir Razuvanov, Sr.
by Vladimir Razuvanov
William and Lorene Rhodes
Robert and Linda Sutton, Our Parents
by Jim and Donna Sutton
Mark David Ruths, Son
by Dave and Lucille Ruths
Herman & Gaynell Sherrill, My Parents
by Cheri Daly
Lily Skipper, daughter of Josh and Julia Skipper
Violet Skipper, daughter of Josh and Julia Skipper
by Nancee and Dickson Skipper
Bob and Ilene Thornburg
by Ross and Jane Roggensack

*We Give These
Poinsettias in
Loving Memory Of
(Continued)*

Christopher Neal Underwood
Gene-Ann Underwood
by Joe Underwood
Gene Ann Underwood
by Sisters in Christ
Richard and Marcia Ward, Mimi's parents
by Lee and Mimi Brady
Bill Weddine
by Alona Weddine
Charles Williams
by Judy Williams
Tim Williams
by Gina Williams
Bill & Ellen Wing, My Parents
by Debby Wing Kelly

**PRAYER REGARDING
ELDER AND DEACON
NOMINATIONS**

Beginning January 2, 2024, and for the entire month of January, the Session of our church will receive and consider nominations for the offices of elder and deacon. Through these offices Christ rules and shepherds his church. Would you prayerfully consider who you believe could serve our church well as an elder or deacon? All nominees must be male and a member of our church for at least two years by his election (June 2024).

**EMPLOYMENT
OPPORTUNITIES AT
CHRIST COVENANT**

Current employment opportunities at Christ Covenant include:
Facilities Maintenance (full-time) & Temporary Facilities Maintenance (Now-February 2024)
Details: christcovenant.org/aboutus/employment
Covenant Day School is hiring for various positions. Details can be found at <https://www.covenantday.org/about-us/employment>

**MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT: OUR SPECIAL CHRISTMAS
EVE OFFERING - PCA RETIREMENT & BENEFITS
MINISTERIAL RELIEF**

Our Christmas Eve worship services will include a special offering designated for the help of Presbyterian Church of America (PCA) pastors, pastors' widows, church employees and their families who need assistance with financial, spiritual, and emotional needs. The work of Ministerial Relief is 100% funded through the generosity of individuals and churches.

Established in 1973, the PCA Retirement and Benefits Ministerial Relief fund uses offerings from congregations like ours to assist pastors and their families. These ministry workers often find themselves in seasons of hardship in addition to the emotional and financial constraints of pastoral work. The relief fund can partner with pastors and churches to support ministry employees and their families in need by extending both help and prayer.

Those eligible for assistance from the fund include pastors, widows, retired or disabled pastors, missionaries, pastors' wives, Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) campus pastors, and church employees. Their need for ministry services grows from year to year. Every month the wife of a PCA pastor becomes a widow who may need ongoing assistance. In addition, the number of PCA pastors retiring without sufficient savings will double in the next five years, and 80% of pastors' wives would access Christian counseling if offered.

The fund provides financial assistance to PCA church servants and their families to help with basic expenses like food, housing, medical costs, and more. This help can be for a brief period or as needed for the care of widows or the disabled. The fund also provides access to affordable and confidential Christian counseling services to pastors and pastors' wives through ministry partners. Ministerial Relief is known as a trusted ministry of compassion to PCA church servants.

To read the stories of individuals who have been helped or to learn more visit <https://genevabenefits.org/relief-fund/give/>.

Please place all special communion offering gifts in an envelope (found in pews) and label it 'Special 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. Thank you for your gift!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School is currently on a break and will resume with new classes beginning Sunday, January 7, 2024. This is a new rhythm for us as a church, which allows a rest for our teachers and volunteers, especially in the children's area. New Sunday School booklets are available at the tables coming into the sanctuary. New class information can also be found online at christcovenant.org/connect/sundayschool.

YEAR-END GIVING

Gifts to the church in December are a significant part of our annual income and help support more than 50 ministries. Generally, gifts to the church in the form of checks or cash that are mailed (and postmarked), or placed in the church offering by December 31, or delivered in person to the church office by 3:45 pm on Friday, December 29, should be deductible for tax purposes. You may also take advantage of our secure online giving at <https://christcovenant.org/members/giving/>. God blesses Christ Covenant through your gifts, and they are greatly appreciated. Call the Church Finance Office at 704-847-3505 with any questions or for more information, including details on handling stock/fund or IRA transfers.

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 – 12/17/23</i>	<i>Actual \$</i>	<i>Budget \$</i>	<i>Difference \$</i>	<i>% (-) or +</i>
Operating Budget	6,458,765	6,409,400	49,365	.8%
Faith Promise Budget	451,047	338,750	112,297	33.15%