

# Contact Us

## Church Staff

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**Tracie Rakestraw**, Children's Director  
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**Brooke Jordan**, Bookkeeper  
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## Session

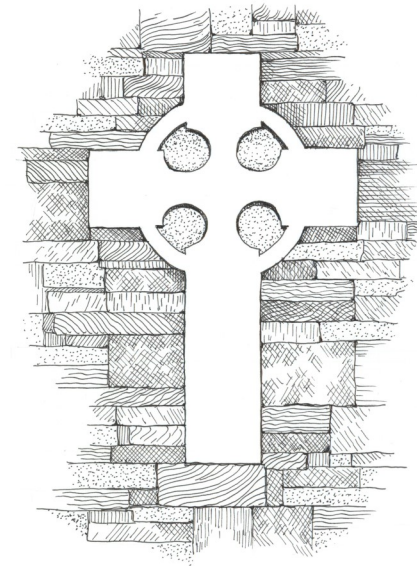
The elders are elected by the congregation to be servant leaders and shepherds of God's people. They guide the direction and outreach of the church, oversee its teaching and worship, and care for the spiritual needs of the members. Please contact them if you need counsel or prayer.

<b>Brad Eidson</b> 256-709-0600 <i>be@eidsoninc.com</i>	<b>Jason McCoy</b> 256-612-0147 <i>jmccoy0716@gmail.com</i>
<b>Luke Mosteller</b> 256-856-1444 <i>ldmosteller@gmail.com</i>	<b>Steve Nyquist</b> 205-907-2326 <i>steve@salientmd.com</i>
<b>Andy Starnes</b> 256-255-3692 <i>feedseller@gmail.com</i>	<b>Jay Weatherly</b> 256-338-0157 <i>jesseowweatherly@gmail.com</i>

## Diaconate

The deacons are elected by the congregation to care for the material needs of church members, promote generosity, and oversee the church facility. They also extend the love and generosity of Christ to those outside the church. Please contact them if you or someone you are concerned about has a physical or material need.

<b>Blake Bright</b> 256-507-1942 <i>bright2018@gmail.com</i>	<b>Caleb Bright</b> 256-339-0292 <i>cbright00@gmail.com</i>
<b>Dale Bright</b> 256-708-0061 <i>dale@sjaonline.com</i>	<b>Braden Cook</b> 256-708-3750 <i>bradenmcook@gmail.com</i>
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<b>Bo Shirey</b> 256-347-6136 <i>boshirey@bellsouth.net</i>	<b>Derek Rakestraw</b> 205-616-8445 <i>dtrakes@hotmail.com</i>



# CHRIST COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

January 9, 2022 | **Worship 9:00 a.m.** | Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

# The Lord's Day

## CALL TO WORSHIP

From Hebrews 9 & 13

Leader: Let us worship our Lord Jesus Christ who has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of Himself. Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people. And He will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but bring salvation to those who are waiting on Him.

Everyone: **Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that confess His name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.**

## SONGS OF PRAISE

*Let Us Love And Sing And Wonder*

TEXT: John Newton, 1774 MUSIC: Laura Taylor, 2001

Let us love and sing and wonder, let us praise the Savior's name!  
He has hushed the law's loud thunder, He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame:  
He has washed us with His blood; He has washed us with His blood;  
He has washed us with His blood; He has brought us nigh to God.

Let us love the Lord who bought us, pitied us when enemies,  
Called us by His grace, and taught us, gave us ears and gave us eyes:  
He has washed us with His blood; He has washed us with His blood;  
He has washed us with His blood; He presents our souls to God.

Let us sing, though fierce temptations threaten hard to bear us down.  
For the Lord, our strong salvation holds in view the conqueror's crown:  
He who washed us with His blood, He who washed us with His blood  
He who washed us with His blood soon will bring us home to God.

Let us wonder; grace and justice join and point to mercy's store;  
When through grace in Christ our trust is, justice smiles and asks no more:  
He who washed us with His blood; He who washed us with His blood;  
He who washed us with His blood has secured our way to God.

Let us praise and join the chorus of the saints enthroned on high;  
Here they trusted Him before us, now their praises fill the sky:  
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood; Thou hast washed us with Thy blood;  
"Thou hast washed us with Thy blood; Thou are worthy, Lamb of God!"

**For women, all ages**

Holly Borden

Gloria Edwards Room

*Colossians* - This brief letter is perhaps one of the most encouraging texts in the Bible! Christ's preeminence, sovereignty, and authority are clearly laid out. We have studied how the mystery of God that has been revealed to God's people is that we can know the riches and glory of Christ! This is possible because Christ lives in us! Girls and women of all ages are welcome to join us as we conclude our study in Colossians as Paul explains to us the practical outworking of Christ living in us!

**For women**

Diane Burton

Room 10

*Women in Transition* Learning to truly experience a growing relationship with God with a community of women who are walking through life's struggles.

**For young couples**

Jay Weatherly / Andy Starnes

Fellowship Hall

Our purpose is to support, encourage, and equip young couples in their journey through a unique time of life. We will study I and II Timothy, work through books by respected Christian authors, and carve out time to focus on marriage and parenting. We will invite several guest couples to join us along the way to share their stories. Some of these couples will be members of Christ Covenant, and others will come to us from outside our church. But we look forward to learning from seasoned couples who have experienced many highs and lows – and God's faithfulness throughout their journeys. We desire much interaction among all participants. But we will look ultimately to the Word of God and the Holy Spirit as our source of truth, wisdom, and inspiration. We are often asked to define "young couple". While tempted to provide a definition, we believe it unwise to fall into such a trap. If you see yourself as a young couple, then this Class is for you!

### ***Church Membership***

We have an Inquirers Class for those who are considering church membership or who simply want to know more about Christ Covenant. This class meets, as needed, in the Bell Tower during Sunday School. Please contact Brad Eidson or Jonathan Haynes if you would like to attend.

### ***Pulpit Committee***

In accordance with the Book of Church Order, Christ Covenant formed a pulpit committee to search for our next pastor. Please pray for the pulpit committee as they conduct this important task. Committee Members: Braden Cook, Brad Eidson, Don Hubbard, Tina Hulse, Jason McCoy, Luke Mosteller (Clerk), Steve Nyquist, Joyah Pettus, Holly Powell, Tracie Rakestraw, Andy Starnes, Anthony Taylor, Jay Weatherly (Chairman)

# Classes & Other Information

## *Children's Sunday School*

Sunday school classes for all ages are held after the worship service. Below you will find a class list and room numbers. If your child is 2nd grade or younger please walk them to their classroom and promptly pick them up following Sunday school, all other grades will be dismissed following Sunday school. The classes will meet in the following rooms:

**Toddler class (3yrs)** - Scott/Becky Lewis - Room 14 (same location)

**Preschool 4yrs** - Whitney/Braden Cook & Tara/Randy Quinn - Room 15 (same location)

**Kindergarten** - Allison/Blake Bright & Rachel/Jonathan Skeen - Room 6

**1st - 2nd grades** - Sheena/Daniel Johnson & Laura Reeder - Room 8

**3rd grade** - Joyah/Wyatt Pettus & Hope/Billy Atchison - Room 9

**4th - 6th girls** - Holly Powell (with Siusan Peek as backup) - Downstairs (same as last year)

**4th - 6th boys** - Bo Shirey - Downstairs (same as last year)

## *Youth Sunday School*

The youth will meet in two classes at The Hill and study various theological topics ranging from the characteristics of God, TULIP, and finding your identity in Christ.

<b>7<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	Jonathan Knappenberger	The Hill (Big Room)
<b>10<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	John and Denise Knappenberger	The Hill (Green Room)

## *Adult Sunday School Classes*

<b>For men and women</b>	Randy Hays	Room 4
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**Genesis "Beginnings"** - The first 11 chapters of Genesis are the foundation of Christian faith. In the inaugural pages of God's Word are found the creation of the world, the fall of the humanity, the promise of redemption and the beginning of salvation history. Interwoven in the text is the hope of the promised Christ who will rescue God's chosen people from their own rebellion. Join us in the study and discussion of these incredible pages. Pages which reveal the very beginning of the human journey from paradise to failure and the hope of redemption.

<b>For men and women</b>	Steve Nyquist / Luke Mosteller	Sanctuary
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**Reboot, Return, Rebuild** The Old Testament story ends with God's people trickling back to the Promised Land after the 70 years of Babylonian Captivity. There is plenty to see and learn. We will explore together the 5 Post-Exile books; Ezra, Nehemiah, Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi. Any and all are welcome to join.

## *Psalm 45: Fairest Of All*

WORDS & MUSIC: Shane Barnard and Shane Everett, 2015

My heart burst at its banks, Spilling with beauty and goodness.  
I pour it out as a song to my King, Shaping the rivers into words.  
What grace pours from your lips, The sound calls the midnight to morning;  
The melody turns my winter to spring, I echo it now in my worship.

*Ten thousand strong, You're the fairest of all,  
Fairest in heaven and earth.  
Of the children of men You're the fairest of them,  
Fairest in heaven and earth.*

Your heart burst at the seams, Flowing with blood and with water.  
A song of love pouring out from the tree singing,  
"For the joy set before me."

You ransomed your bride On the day that you died,  
Ascended to heaven in glory.  
She stands clothed in white With her head lifted high singing,  
"Come and return in Your glory."

You ransomed your bride On the day that you died,  
Ascended to heaven in glory.  
We stand clothed in white With our voice lifted high singing,  
"Come and return in Your glory."

## INVOCATION

## SCRIPTURE READING

**James 4:13-18**

## CONFESSION OF SIN

O God Most High, Mighty Warrior, Strength and Shield, Kings of kings, Lord of all—  
Hear my cry, for I am a helpless creature, held in bondage to my own sinful pride,  
imagining that I can be my own god.  
I confess to you, O Christ, a heart hardened by selfishness,  
an unruly tongue, a fretful disposition, a discontented spirit,  
an unwillingness to bear the burdens of others,  
and many neglected opportunities to give you the praise and thanksgiving you deserve.  
Forgive all my iniquities for the sake of your Name and eternal sacrifice,  
and enable me to heartily obey and serve you in the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

**SONG OF ASSURANCE*****Come, Ye Souls By Sin Afflicted***

WORDS: Joseph Swain, 1792 MUSIC: Kevin Twit, 2013

Come, ye souls by sin afflicted, Bowed with fruitless sorrow down;  
By the broken law convicted, Through the cross behold the crown.  
Look to Jesus, look to Jesus, look to Jesus—  
Mercy flows through Him alone.

Take His easy yoke and wear it; Love will make your obedience sweet;  
Christ will give you strength to bear it, While His grace shall guide your feet.  
Safe to glory, safe to glory, safe to glory,  
Where His ransomed captives meet.

Blessèd are the eyes that see Him, Blest the ears that hear His voice;  
Blessèd are the souls that trust Him, and in Him alone rejoice.  
His commandments, His commandments, His commandments  
Then become their happy choice.

Sweet as home to pilgrims weary, Light to newly-opened eyes,  
Like full springs in deserts dreary, Is the rest the cross supplies.  
All who taste it, all who taste it, all who taste it  
Shall to rest immortal rise.  
Look to Jesus, look to Jesus, look to Jesus—  
Mercy flows through him alone.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS****INTERCESSORY PRAYER**

**OFFERING** *Tithes and offerings may be given online or in the offering plates in the Narthex.*

**SCRIPTURE READING****Psalm 37****SERMON****Instructions for a New Year****Phil Reddick****COMMUNION SONG*****The Night Song***

WORDS &amp; MUSIC: Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson, &amp; Colin Buchanan, 2021

In the darkness God will keep me; He will stay and never sleep.  
In the darkness God is brighter; Though the night is long and deep.  
All this day Your hand has held me, God of Heaven, by my side.  
Thank you, Father, for Your goodness; You will hold me through the night.

# Sermon Notes

# “Love . . . Reaching”

**Vinnie and Molly Athey serve on the campus of the University of Alabama, Huntsville with Reformed University Fellowship. Vinnie grew up in Northern Virginia and graduated from Virginia Tech in 2010. After college, he did the RUF internship at the University of Florida and met his wife Molly, who was the RUF intern at Florida State. They got married in 2014 and moved to Charlotte, NC where Vinnie earned his Masters of Divinity from Reformed Theological Seminary. They have two children Rhys and Hazel. The update below is from a recent newsletter.**

Hello Friends,

Thomas is a Senior from Chattanooga studying Chemical Engineering. Thomas came to UAH with no with no religious background and no real aim in college other than to get a degree and make friends. God, in His grace, used the community of RUF to befriend him, stoke his curiosity about spiritual matters, and bring him to a place of need for Jesus. We talked about everything over countless meals and meetings in the Charger Union. We talked about the Bible, a life of faith, the kingdom, family, the horrible Pittsburgh Steelers, and even the Westminster Confession of Faith believe it or not. It was sometime over the those meetings or in RUF large group and small groups that the Gospel clicked for Thomas. Grace became real to him and he is a follower of Jesus now. Last month I was able to baptize him, one of the greatest privileges I've had in vocational ministry. That story is just one snapshot of what God is doing on the campus of UAH and what your faithful generosity in financial giving allows us to do.

All said, this semester felt more "normal". We were able to meet more comfortably in person again and it was a great reminder of how important incarnational ministry is and will always be. Canceling our RUF Zoom Pro Subscription felt like a significant moment this semester :)

Please pray for us as we've had an unusual amount of interest from new students who are curious about who Jesus is and if Christianity is for real. Some of my favorite times are my weekly meetings with non-believers where we simply open the Bible together and talk about it. Pray for more conversions and for our Christian students to grow deeper roots of faith.

A Financial ASK - Due to the reality of Covid, we have had a slight drop-off of support. It has been a hard season on everyone. Because of that, we are in need of:

1) More monthly supporters to partner with us; 2) ~\$20K to meet our budget goal for 2021. Will you consider partnering with us monthly or a year-end gift? You can do so here: <https://givetoruf.org/Donate?productid=706> (\*RUF is a 501(c)3 organization and all gifts are tax-deductible and will be recognized with a tax-deductible receipt and end of the year statement.) Thank you so much for your generosity. We are thankful to be able to serve this campus and these students with the love of Jesus.

Peace,  
Vinnie, Molly, Rhys (4), and Hazel (1 year, 8 months)

In the shadows You are with me; And you know my every fear.  
In the shadows none can harm me; For the mighty King is here.  
All this day Your hand has held me, God of Heaven, by my side.  
Thank you, Father, for Your goodness; You will hold me through the night.

So I find my rest in Jesus; He who came to rescue me.  
Jesus saved me from the darkness; I will rise to life with him.  
All this day Your hand has held me, God of Heaven, by my side.  
Thank you, Father, for Your goodness; You will hold me through the night.

## CONFESSION OF FAITH      Westminster Shorter Catechism Q. 35

Minister:      What is sanctification?

People:      **Sanctification is the work of God's free grace, whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God, and are enabled more and more to die unto sin and live unto righteousness.**

## COMMUNION

## CLOSING SONG

### *Christ Our Hope In Life And Death*

WORDS & MUSIC: Keith Getty, Matt Boswell, Jordan Kauflin, Matt Merker, Matt Papa, 2020

What is our hope in life and death? Christ alone, Christ alone.  
What is our only confidence? That our souls to him belong.  
Who holds our days within his hand? What comes, apart from his command?  
And what will keep us to the end? The love of Christ, in which we stand.

*O sing hallelujah! Our hope springs eternal;  
O sing hallelujah! Now and ever we confess  
Christ our hope in life and death.*

What truth can calm the troubled soul? God is good, God is good.  
Where is his grace and goodness known? In our great Redeemer's blood.  
Who holds our faith when fears arise? Who stands above the stormy trial?  
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh Unto the shore, the rock of Christ?

Unto the grave, what shall we sing? "Christ, he lives; Christ, he lives!"  
And what reward will heaven bring? Everlasting life with him.  
There we will rise to meet the Lord, Then sin and death will be destroyed,  
And we will feast in endless joy, When Christ is ours forevermore.

## BENEDICTION

The Westminster Shorter Catechism was written in England in 1647. It is the doctrinal confession of many Reformed churches, including our own.

# Christ Covenant News

1310 St. Joseph Dr. NW · Cullman, Alabama 35055

www.christcovenantcullman.org

*A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)*

## Welcome to Christ Covenant

We would like to welcome any visitors to Christ Covenant. We are glad to have you worship with us! We also wanted to let you know that our pastor of almost 25 years accepted a new call and we presently have an interim pastor, Phil Reddick, that preaches 2-3 times per month and guest preachers on the remaining Sundays while our pulpit committee searches for our next pastor. If you would like to learn more about Christ Covenant, we would encourage you to join our Inquirers Class. See the Church Membership section on the Classes & Other Information page for more information.

## Church Directory Updates

Our church directory is available to view on your mobile device! Instant Church Directory - the program we use to build our church directory - has a free app for church members to download on their Apple and Android devices. Simply download the Instant Church Directory app from the App Store on your device. You will be asked to enter your email address as it's listed in our directory. If your email address isn't listed in the directory, let the Church Administrator know so it can be added. Once you enter your email address follow the directions on screen to complete the login process. After you login, the directory will be downloaded to your device. Anytime updates are made, they will update on your device too. In the app you will be able to search for families and members and call, email and text right from the app. More information can be found at [www.InstantChurchDirectory.com/app](http://www.InstantChurchDirectory.com/app).

## Prayer Chain

Your brothers and sisters in Christ would love to pray for you. Please call, text, or email with any requests Gwen Hays 256-796-7031 or 256-709-5276 [gwen2829@yahoo.com](mailto:gwen2829@yahoo.com)

## This Week's Activities

### Wednesday

6:30-8:00 p.m. Covenant Group, Youth Group  
Covenant Kids

### Friday

7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Group

### Sunday

9:00 a.m. Worship Service & Communion  
10:30 a.m. Sunday School

## Upcoming Events

**Jan 23** - Joint Session-Diaconate Meeting

**Jan 30** - Congregational Meeting to present budget and provide Pulpit Committee update

**Feb 1** - Presbytery Meeting at Cornerstone PCA

**Feb 13** - Joint Sunday School for Lenden Fleeman missions update

**Feb 16** - Variety Show

## Nursery Volunteers Schedule

### January 9

Church Service—Anna Bright, Tina Hulse  
Sunday School—Drew Peek

### January 16

Church Service—Mary Rogers, Tamara Sheffield  
Sunday School—Anthony Taylor

## Birthdays This Week

January 9.....Neva Cochran  
.....Rachel Eidson  
12.....Billy Atchison  
.....Jessica Duke  
14.....Caroline Lunsford  
15.....Melodie Benson  
.....Paulette DuBose

*If we miss your birthday, please email Jonathan Haynes.*

## Covenant Groups

If you have not been meeting with a Covenant Group, the new year is a great time to join in! Covenant Groups allow participation of all Christ Covenant members plus regularly participating non-members for the purposes of belonging, serving, encouraging, and nurturing. Contact any of the elders on the back of the bulletin to get connected with a Covenant Group.

## Nursery Ministry

Our nursery welcomes children 0-3 years of age. Parents need to fill out information on Check-In stickers each week. Volunteers are needed; text Karena to be added to the list. We also have openings for paid nursery staff on Sunday mornings. If you or someone you know is 18 years old or older and interested in working 2-4 regular shifts per month, please contact Karena Haynes at (256) 636-0999

## Women's Bible Studies

Monday Night - This group will begin a five-week study on the book of Mark on January 24th. Group meets at the church from 6:00-7:30 p.m. For more information contact Kristi Nyquist.

Tuesday Morning - This study on the book of Philippians will begin on January 11th. Yvonne Welch from Briarwood will be leading the study. The group meets from 10:00-11:30 in the Sanctuary.

## CCPC Tithes & Offerings

As we enter a new year, please continue to support the work and ministry of Christ Covenant to include our partnerships with missionaries and ministries both locally and around the world. Here are some ways you can give your tithes and offerings: 1) Use the offering plates in the Narthex; 2) Give online at <https://app.easytithe.com/App/Giving/chripo159>; 3) Use the EasyTithe (Not easyTithe Plus) app on your smartphone or tablet; 4) Send a text to (256) 202-5858 and enter the amount of your gift in the message line; 5) Mail your donation to CCPC, PO Box 250, Cullman AL 35056

## Greece Missions Team Meeting

There will be an organizational meeting at the church today (Jan. 9) at 4.p.m. to discuss this year's trip. The tentative dates for this short term mission trip are June 4-12, if possible the team will travel over a few days early. In talking with Argyris Petrou, Greece is currently open, but team members will need to be fully vaccinated especially to gain reentry to the U.S. If you are interested in joining the team, contact Johnny Cook.

## CCPC Rummage Sale 2022

We plan to have a Rummage Sale in May, 2022 to support our Greece Missions Team. If you have gently used or good condition household items (no clothes at this time), please call Judie Hubbard (256) 708-7877 or Karena Haynes (256) 636-0999 for more information.

## Foundry Farm Thank You Note

To all who gave, I am writing this on behalf of the many guys in the Foundry Farm Program that you took the time to give a Christmas miracle. Many of our children may not have been able to enjoy the Christmas spirit without all of your generosity. The many heartfelt gifts truly warmed our spirits seeing our children open the many presents, as well as allowing us to bond with our children during this time away from them. It was such an amazing feeling when somebody slows down and takes this time to help their brothers in Christ.

Sincerely,  
Eddie Wilson Farm Director and  
Foundry Farm Program Participants

## Men's Hike

**Dates:** Depart May 20 (morning) and return May 21 (afternoon)

**Location:** Len Foote Hike Inn in the Chattahoochee National Forest in North Georgia

**Cost:** \$110.00 per person includes dinner and breakfast

**Details:** two men per room, rooms have bunk beds & electricity