

Contact Us

Church Staff

Jason Ellerbee, Pastor
jellerbee@christcovenantcullman.org 205-807-8064

Jonathan Knappenberger, Youth Director
jonathan@christcovenantcullman.org 256-339-7406

Jonathan Haynes Church Administrator
jhaynes@christcovenantcullman.org 256-339-2856

Tracie Rakestraw, Children's Director
tracie@christcovenantcullman.org 205-527-4238

Karena Haynes, Nursery Director
mrs.k.haynes@gmail.com 256-636-0999

Brooke Jordan, Bookkeeper
brooke@christcovenantcullman.org 256-739-0505

Session

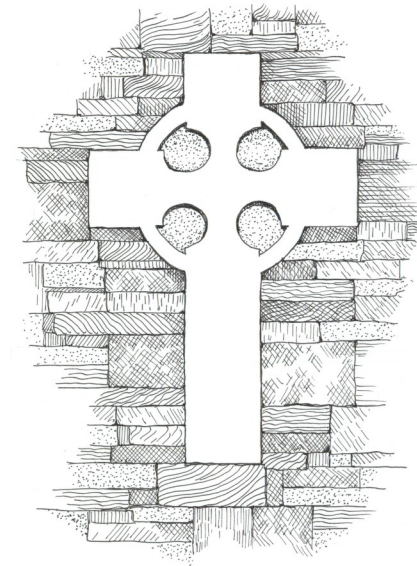
The elders are elected by the congregation to be servant leaders and shepherds of God's people. They guide the direction and outreach of the church, oversee its teaching and worship, and care for the spiritual needs of the members. Please contact them if you need counsel or prayer.

Brad Eidson <i>be@eidsoninc.com</i>	256-709-0600	Jonathan Haynes <i>jhaynes@christcovenantcullman.org</i>	256-339-2856
Luke Mosteller <i>ldmosteller@gmail.com</i>	256-856-1444	Derek Rakestraw <i>dtrakes@hotmail.com</i>	205-616-8445
Andy Starnes <i>feedseller@gmail.com</i>	256-255-3692	Steven Turner <i>turner1898@yahoo.com</i>	256-917-1285
Jay Weatherly <i>jay@salientmd.com</i>	256-338-0157		

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.

Wade Bentley <i>wbntley@yahoo.com</i>	256-736-4960	Caleb Bright <i>cbright00@gmail.com</i>	256-339-0292
Dale Bright <i>dale@sjaonline.com</i>	256-708-0061	Braden Cook <i>bradenmcook@gmail.com</i>	256-708-3750
Johnny Cook <i>mselc14@gmail.com</i>	256-338-8085	Hayes Eidson <i>he@eidsoninc.com</i>	256-709-0604
Taylor Eidson <i>te@eidsoninc.com</i>	256-708-0603	Kent Howze <i>khowze@peoplesbankal.com</i>	256-338-2327
Bo Kennedy <i>bo.kennedy64.bk@gmail.com</i>	256-822-8051	Stan Kennedy <i>sak5391@gmail.com</i>	256-339-9611
Roger Kornegay <i>roger@buettnerbros.com</i>	256-339-9883	Scott Lewis <i>slewisjr@mindspring.com</i>	256-339-7238
Drew Peek <i>drewpeek@gmail.com</i>	256-590-1175	Zeb Powell <i>zebisawesome@gmail.com</i>	256-620-3465
Daren Rakestraw <i>drakestraw@aviagen.com</i>	256-497-5342		



CHRIST COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 26, 2023 | **Worship 9:00 a.m.** | Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

The Lord's Day

CALL TO WORSHIP

From Isaiah 45:18

Minister: For thus says the LORD, who created the heavens

People: He is God!

Minister: Who formed the earth and made it

People: He established it!

Minister: He did not create it empty, He formed it to be inhabited!

All: He is the LORD, and there is no other.

SONGS OF PRAISE

Death Was Arrested

TEXT: Brandon Coker, Paul Taylor Smith, Adam Kersh, and Heath Balltzglier, 2015

Alone in my sorrow dead in my sin
Lost without hope with no place to begin
Your love made a way to let mercy come in
When death was arrested and my life began

Ash was redeemed only beauty remains
My orphan heart was given a name
My mourning grew quiet my feet rose to dance
When death was arrested and my life began

Oh your grace so free Washes over me
You have made me new Now life begins with you
It's your endless love Pouring down on us
You have made us new Now life begins with you

Released from my chains I'm a prisoner no more
My shame was a ransom he faithfully bore
He cancelled my debt and he called me his friend
When death was arrested and my life began

Our savior displayed on a criminal's cross
Darkness rejoiced as though heaven had lost
But then Jesus arose with our freedom in hand
That's when death was arrested and my life began
That's when death was arrested and my life began

Oh we're free free Forever we're free
Come join the song Of all the redeemed

For women of all ages

Jennifer Westall

Room 7

Join us each week immediately following the worship service as we work through the book of Genesis, looking at the story of Jacob and how God's promises to him through Abraham apply to our personal story.

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 Session Room during Sunday School. Please contact Jason Ellerbee or Brad Eidson if you would like to attend.

Covenant Groups

Covenant Groups are cross-generational groups intended to allow participation of all Christ Covenant members plus regularly participating non-members for the purposes of belonging, serving, encouraging, and nurturing. You may contact any of the elders on the back of the bulletin to get connected with a Covenant Group.

Women for Christ

The CCPC Women's Committee was developed to serve the women in our church body based on Romans 12:2. We are committed to teaching women to be transformed by the renewing of their minds through Scripture so that the women of our church will be able to test and approve God's good, pleasing, and perfect will. Our desire is that every woman at CCPC has an opportunity to serve and connect. We are focused on outreach, prayer, mercy ministry, and spiritual growth. If you are interested in helping in any of these areas of service to our church family, please contact Tina (256) 347-3593 or Diane (256) 709-2642.

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. 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 Jonathan Haynes 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.

Classes & Other Information

Children's Sunday School

Sunday school classes for all ages are held after the worship service. All children 3rd grade and younger go directly to Room 3 (the "chandelier room") following the service. Children 3rd grade or younger should be picked up from their class once Sunday school is over. All 4th-6th grade students should go directly to their class downstairs and will be dismissed following Sunday School. Below you will find a class list and room numbers.

Toddler 3yrs - Scott/Becky Lewis - Room 14

Preschool 4yrs - Joyah/Wyatt Pettus & Sue/Grace Eidson & Anna Bright - Room 15

Kindergarten - Kristi Nyquist & Rachel/Taylor Eidson - Room 6

1st grade - Blake/Allison Bright & Lee/Sarah Haynes - Room 8

2nd - 3rd grade - Sheena Johnson & John/Audrey Nyquist - Room 9

4th - 6th grade girls - Siusan Peek/Caroline Lunsford (back up) - Downstairs

4th - 6th grade boys - Rick White & Bo Shirey - Downstairs

Youth Sunday School

The youth will meet in three classes at The Hill and will all be studying the book of Joshua.

7th and 8th Grades	Jonathan & Amanda Knappenberger	The Hill (Big Room)
9th and 10th Grades	Hayes & Jessi Eidson	The Hill (Green Room)
11th and 12th Grades	Benjamin & Mary Rogers	The Hill (Orange Room)

Adult Sunday School

Adult Sunday school classes are divided roughly along the lines of age and stage of life. Each Sunday provides an opportunity for fellowship, Bible study, and prayer with others experiencing similar circumstances according to the particular age and stage of life. These classes are for both men and women unless indicated otherwise.

20s	Luke Mosteller	Bell Tower Room
30s	Andy Starnes / Derek Rakestraw	Room 3
40s/50s	Steve Nyquist / Jason Ellerbee	Fellowship Hall
	March 26: Drawing Near – Old Man vs. New Man (Ephesians)	
	April 2: Drawing Near – Wrap Up	
	April 9: Easter Sunday – no SS	
60+	Randy Hays / Mike Burton	Room 4
	This class will be studying the parables of Jesus.	

Yes we're free free Forever amen
When death was arrested and my life began

Christ Is Risen

WORDS & MUSIC: Shane Barnard, Shane Everett, 2012

Let no one caught in sin remain inside the lie of inward shame,
We fix our eyes upon the cross and run to him who showed great love
And bled for us—freely you've bled for us.

*Christ is risen from the dead, trampling over death by death.
Come awake, come awake, come and rise up from the grave,
Christ is risen from the dead. We are one with Him again,
Come awake, come awake, come and rise up from the grave.*

Beneath the weight of all our sin you bowed to none but heaven's will.
No scheme of hell, no scoffer's crown, no burden great can hold you down.
In strength you reign—Forever let your church proclaim:

O death, where is your sting? O hell, where is your victory?
O church, come stand in the light. The glory of God has defeated the night.
O death, where is your sting? O hell, where is your victory?
O church, come stand in the light. Our God is not dead, he's alive, he's alive!

INVOCATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 18:1-11

CONFESSION OF SIN

from Psalm 51

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your unfailing love;
According to Your great compassion blot out my transgressions.
Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.
For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.
Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight.
Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me from Your presence or take Your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of Your salvation and grant me a willing spirit to sustain me.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SONG OF ASSURANCE

He Will Hold Me Fast

WORDS: Ada Habershon, 1861-1918, Matt Merker, 2013 MUSIC: Matt Merker, 2013

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
When the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold Through life's fearful path

Sermon Notes

For my love is often cold, He must hold me fast.

*He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast,
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast.*

Those He saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast;
Precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost, His promises shall last,
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.

For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;
Justice has been satisfied, He will hold me fast.
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast,
Till our faith is turned to sight When he comes at last.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

OFFERING

SCRIPTURE READING **Mark 11:12-33**

SERMON **The King's Authority**

COMMUNION SONG ***Take Shelter***

WORDS & MUSIC: Kristyn Getty, Skye Peterson, & Ben Shive, 2022

When the nations rage and death is at the door, When the wars are waged as they have been before,
There's a refuge that I run to, A respite from my fear, Nothing in this world can harm me here.

When my song of hope is swallowed by the pain, As the weariness of grief floods in again,
Will you find me in the valley? Oh hear my helpless cry! Hold me as a mother holds her child.

*And I'll take shelter; Take shelter in the loving arms of God.
And I will take shelter; Take shelter in the loving arms of God.*

When a greater war had torn apart my soul, And the iron hold of sin would not let go.
All of heaven stormed the darkness In the power of the cross.
I'm freed beneath the banner of His love

*And I'll take shelter; Take shelter in the loving arms of God
And I will take shelter; Take shelter in the loving arms of God.*

When the labors of this fleeting life are done, As the shadows fall we'll see the lights of home.
And then all our present troubles Will be stories of the past.
Safe within His gates we'll find our rest.

“Love . . . Reaching”

Argyris and Dina Petrou are natives of Athens, Greece. Argyris is a pastor and professor at the Greek Bible College. Dina is the director of Community House Damaris (CHD), a Christian ministry for victims of sex trafficking. The update below is from January and February correspondence.

January Email—...we have welcomed 2023 with great gratitude to our God who has provided everything we need and who keeps blessing this ministry. December has been a month that brought Damaris family closer, as we had the chance to celebrate together and share unique family moments. January, though, has brought some disturbing news for one of our girls, M., who has been attending our program for many months now and delivered her baby while being with us. She has been facing charges against her and her trial is approaching. The hopes for her acquittal are slim. Moreover, if she goes into the prison, she is going to lose custody of her daughter. All these months she has been achieving such a progress in both her personal recovery and parenting skills! Our only hope is the Lord who makes wonders! I invite you to join me in prayer asking for His will for M..

And as Damaris House is the home of M., this is also the case for all the other beneficiaries. Every month we have to cover their cost of living. The yearly cost of electricity for the Safe Houses, offices and the Day Program is \$16,200 (\$1350 per month). This money enables our girls to cook, have hot water, do the laundry, operate the air-conditioning etc. Please, consider covering this need by offering ANY AMOUNT - even what you may think is a small commitment will go very, very far in this time of great need.

February Newsletter—February is a month that brought Damaris House a lot of encouragement to continue our ministry and keep fulfilling our mission...I have been envisioning the next step of this ministry-the establishing and running of social businesses for the employment and financial empowerment of our girls after graduating Phases I & II of the Day Program. This has been a burden in my heart all these years. I believe now it's the right time to develop this heart's desire of mine. So, February brought us closer to this aim, as two of our core group members had the chance to go to Nepal and visit a Christian organization like ours for Nepali girls needing recovery, protection and integration to society. It was a great experience to see all these underaged girls along with their babies, to attend academic and recovery classes, learn life skills as well as job training and to worship the true God. This organization has established a development skill program – a chance for all of their beneficiaries to create handmade crafts, sell them and generate an income for living...As we have been praying for years for such a project, I believe this is the time to start our own social business which will empower our girls financially so that they can be independent and free. Please, pray for this project of ours, that God leads us according to His will.

For now, the only income our girls have is the small allowance they receive monthly from us. The cost of the allowance for the organization amounts to \$51,000 per year (\$4,250 per month or \$140 per day). Please, consider covering this need by offering ANY AMOUNT - even what you may think is a small commitment will go very, very far in this time of great need. Thank you for your prayers and love which you express in many ways.

Love in Christ,
Dina

*And I'll take shelter; Take shelter in the loving arms of God.
And I will take shelter; Take shelter in the loving arms of God.*

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Westminster Larger Catechism Q. 7

Minister: What is God?

People: God is a Spirit, in and of himself infinite in being, glory, blessedness, and perfection; all-sufficient, eternal, unchangeable, incomprehensible, everywhere present, almighty, knowing all things, most wise, most holy, most just, most merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth.

COMMUNION

BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG

I'll Not Be Shaken

WORDS & MUSIC: Wendell Kimbrough, 2015

For God alone, I wait in silence; My soul is still before the Lord.
He is my rock and my salvation, My fortress strong; I trust in Him.

*I'll not be shaken! I'll not be shaken, For all my hope is in His love.
From God alone comes my salvation; I wait and trust His steadfast love!*

Put not your hope in gain of riches; Seek not your rest in empty wealth.
The rich are weak; the poor are mighty, Who turn to God alone for help.

Pour out your heart to God our refuge And trust in Him to hear you cry.
No other hope will never fail you No other love will not run dry.

Greetings From Our Pastor

Welcome to Christ Covenant! We are honored and delighted to have you worshiping with us this Lord's Day. The entire CCPC family is eager to meet you, answer any questions you may have, and serve you best we can. After the service my wife and I will be in the lobby where we would love to personally greet and welcome you. I pray that our time together has been a source of encouragement to your soul, and that you have been refreshed by the Lord's Word and His people. Please let us know how we can serve you!

Grace and peace, Jason Ellerbee, Sr. Pastor

Christ Covenant News

1310 St. Joseph Dr. NW · Cullman, Alabama 35055
www.christcovenantcullman.org · (256) 739-0505
A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)

This Week's Activities

Tuesday
9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study

Wednesday
6:30-8:00 p.m. Youth Group

Thursday
6:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study

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

Sunday
9:00 a.m. Worship Service & Communion
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
6:00-7:00 p.m. Youth Bible Study Groups

Nursery Volunteers Schedule

Mar 26
Church Service—Rachel Eidson, Tina Hulse
Sunday School—Braden Cook

April 2
Church Service—Sara Haynes, Stan Kennedy
Sunday School—Nicole Robb

Covenant Groups

There will be no Covenant Groups or Covenant Kids this week due to Spring Break. Youth Group will meet on Wednesday night.

Church Membership

The Inquirers Class will be continuing today for those who are considering church membership or who simply want to know more about Christ Covenant. This class will meet in the Session Room during Sunday School. Please contact Jason Ellerbee or Brad Eidson if you would like to attend.

Birthdays This Week

March 27.....Jacob Mahler
29.....Gail Sylvius
29.....Haddon Reeder
30.....Ella Ruth Quinn
31.....Madison Hooks Miner

Did we miss a birthday? Email Brooke.

Holy Week Service

Prepare to celebrate Christ's resurrection by remembering his words and actions in the Upper Room on the night he was betrayed. Singing, Gospel readings, and the Lord's Table take us back to that most holy night. Join us Wednesday, April 5th at 7:00 p.m. Nursery provided.

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

Rummage Sale

Our Rummage Sale to support our Belize Missions Team is scheduled for May 19th-20th. We are now accepting ALL donations including clothing. Due to the time-consuming nature of sorting and pricing clothing, we will be accepting clothing donations for one month only- March 12 until April 16. So, please clean out your spaces and bring your gently-used items to us soon! All proceeds from the sale go to CCPC short term missions. Please contact Judie Hubbard (256) 708-7877 or Karen Haynes (256) 636-0999 if you have any questions regarding the Rummage Sale including where to drop-off donations.

Women's Bible Studies

Tuesday Mornings - Join us for a study on the books of Joshua and Judges led by Yvonne Welch at 9:30 a.m. in the Gloria Edwards Room. We would love to have you!

Thursday Night - We are continuing our study of Exodus with Jen Wilkin's *God of Freedom: A Study of Exodus 19-40*. This 10-week study meets on Thursday evenings at 6:00 p.m. in the Gloria Edwards Room. Materials are provided. Nursery available upon request.

Crates For Ukraine

At the request of Mission to the World national partners, Crates for Ukraine provides personal and humanitarian aid from churches in the U.S. to churches in Ukraine. This takes place in three steps: #1. Collect supplies, #2. Pack Crates, #3. Deliver crates to Chattanooga. Once crates are delivered to the warehouse, a shipping company partnering with CFU flies aid to Europe and delivers to Lviv, Ukraine where the church distributes to most needed areas within days. To help purchase supplies, you can select Crates for Ukraine on the EasyTithe app or by indicating CFU on your check. If you would like to help purchase items, pack crates, or deliver crates, contact Matthew McGrath or Siusan Peek. For more information, go to www.CratesForUkraine.com.

RYM - July 3-7

RYM is a conference for High Schoolers (current 8th-12th grade) hosted at the Laguna Beach Christian Retreat Center. Students will spend the week in fellowship, worship, and learning God's truth. **Individual registration deadline is April 1st.** You may register at rym.org/hsf11-registration. See Mr. Knappenberger if you need additional information.

Men's Ministry Events

"Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love."

1 Corinthians 16:13-14

Men's Morning Study – beginning April 4th @ 6:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall

3M (3rd Monday) Men's Fellowship – launching on Monday, April 17th – time and location TBD

Changes Coming to Children's Summer Sunday School

Summer Sunday school is a time when my regular teachers have a break from teaching each week. It's also a time where our covenant children are learning Children's Catechism Q & A. For the past several years we have had sign-up/volunteer system in place, this summer will be different. I am looking for two people per class to be committed to that class for the summer which is 10 weeks. I am excited to announce that all classes have been filled except for the 4th—5th grade class. The classes are based on the grade your child JUST COMPLETED with the exception of the 6th graders who will go ahead and promote up to the youth house for Sunday school on June 4. The classes are;

Toddler class - Scott/Becky Lewis
Prek-K class - Kristi Nyquist/Ginger Pettus
1st grade class - Randy/Tara Quinn
2nd - 3rd grade class - Julie Kennedy/Dana Starnes
4th - 5th grade class - 2 teachers still needed
I will also need people willing to be on a sub list for these summer teachers.
Summer Sunday school dates are June 4 - Aug 6.

If you have any questions please see Tracie. Please be in prayer about how you can serve in children's ministry this summer.