

**Covenant Church Newsletter**  
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A Christ centered covenant community;

Loving, God,  
Loving People,  
Making Disciples

**November 2020**

**Pastor's Ponderings**

Thanksgiving season is here again, and for Christians that means a time to reflect on the discipline of stewardship as well. The two are not casually connected. The issue is not that Covenant Church has rent and insurance to pay, or even that we want to support ministry and missions (which we do!). No, the central issue is that God has saved your life. More properly said, God keeps saving your life, every day, every minute. God has taken everything wrong that you've ever done or ever will do and nailed it through the hands and feet of Jesus Christ. God in Jesus Christ has forgiven your sin and made it possible for you to start a new day without guilt or burden. God in the Holy Spirit attends your every moment of living, whether you are aware of it or not, and thus gives you not only eternal life in the sweet by-and by, but also abundant life in the sweet here-and-now. This is the central and compelling truth that drives our desire to give. It's the recognition that God has given us everything, that God has blessed us abundantly, that God has caused our cup to overflow. And what does God ask in return? Our response of obedience, which includes returning to God a tenth of all that God has given us (and returning is the right word here...all that we have is God's to begin with). A tenth you say! Yes, because when we trust God with that tenth, when you take the steps necessary to take God at His word, we won't have any less. "Bring the full tithe into the storehouse," says God, "and thus put me to the test, to see if I won't open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing" (Malachi 3:10). Let's celebrate a prayerful and thoughtful thanksgiving, and do so as a spiritual discipline, grateful for all God has done for us in Jesus Christ.

In Christ, Brant

## **From The Clerk**

Our church continues to “pray around the flagpole” for our “adopted” public school, McCartney Ranch Elementary, on the second Wednesdays of each month. Please come join us at 9:00 am on those mornings as listed in the bulletin and monthly newsletter. If you can’t commit to coming in person, please pray as you can for all our students and staff that they may safely get back to learning and socially interacting with their peers. In the past we have also presented the school with reading bins and encouraging desk calendars and pens. Last week we gave \$700 to McCartney Ranch for needed whiteboards, erasers, and jump ropes for students as they were returning to face to face schooling

Elder Rex Little again gave another wonderful presentation for adult Sunday School on October 18 and planning the next one for November 15. Please plan to attend.

Along with Dr Baker as our Clergy Commissioner, Elder Everett Greenwood has attended our recent Hope Presbytery meeting (via Zoom) as our Elder Commissioner. The next ECO National Gathering in January 2021 will also be online. We hope many will tune into the wonderful presentations.

## **Adult Education Class**

There will be an Adult Education Class, "Women In The Church", on November 15th starting at 11:15 and going to Noon. Due to Covid-19 we will not be providing food but you are welcome to bring your own snacks if you wish. Water Bottles will be available.

## **Men’s Bible Study**

The Men of the church meet each Thursday at 11:00am, all men are welcome, and you can bring a sack lunch if you like. Wearing a mask is optional. If you would like to be part of the Bible study, please call Brant for more information (520-876- 2888 or 480-458-7628).

## **Neighborhood Help Team**

The Neighborhood Help Team is continuing a service for those who could use a little bit of help. We would like to help you in replacing A/C filters or with some landscape trimming on the 4th Saturday of each month. Contact Nelson Moore in person or call him @ 520-483-0461.

## **November Calendar**

- 1 Communion
- 5 Worship Team Meeting, Thursday, November 5th at 1:00pm.
- 11 Prayers at the flagpole at McCartney Ranch Elementary, Wed. November 11, 9:00am.
- 11 Prayer Night, Wednesday, November 11, 6:30pm at Carol & Wiley's.
- 15 Adult Education Class after service from 11:15 – noon.
- 26 Thanksgiving

## **November Birthdays**

- 6 Darold Wiede
- 14 Taylor Ann Kirkbride
- 17 Charlie Leniger
- 19 Carol Smith

## **November Anniversaries**

No Anniversaries