

TRUNK OR TREAT IS AROUND THE CORNER

Trunk or Treat is Wednesday, Oct. 25, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Covenant parking lot. Volunteers park their cars side-by-side as kids go from trunk to trunk listening and learning stories from the Bible. At the end of the story, kids receive a treat. To ensure this year's event is a success, we need your help! It's easy and fun, and is a great opportunity for families, small groups, friends and neighbors to come together! Simply select a story from a list of Bible stories, and then get creative, decorating your trunk to help bring the story to life. If you are interested in learning more, look for a table on the patio or contact Deon Wright at deonwright@gmail.com.

STUDENT MINISTRIES FALL RETREAT

Covenant Student Ministries will have a fall retreat Friday, Sept. 29 through Sunday, Oct. 1, at Camp Champions. Registration has started and spots are limited! The camp is open to all students grades 6-12. The cost is \$160. Contact Whitney Bell at wbell@covenant.org for more information and to sign up.

BELIZE SPRING BREAK MISSION TRIP MEETING

Covenant Student Ministries will return to Belize for its fourth year during Spring Break 2018 (March 12-18). Those interested in traveling must complete an application and turn it in to Whitney Bell or Billy Streu by Sept. 20. This trip is open to all families, high school students and older middle school students (as long as a parent can come with them). For more info or to get an application, contact Whitney at wbell@covenant.org.

PARLOR CLASS IS STUDYING PSALMS

The Parlor Class is studying the Psalms. If you have always wanted to read through the Psalms, please join us. We read the Psalm, talk about it and sometimes sing a hymn based on the Psalm. Our class meets in the Sanctuary Parlor every Sunday from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. For more information, contact Charlene Cole at (512) 836-3612 or chcole@flash.net.

SAVE THE DATE: Q COMMONS IS COMING BACK

Join 200 thoughtful leaders from across Austin for an evening of learning and discussion on "Healing our Divided Nation." Covenant's second Q Commons event is Thursday, Oct. 26, from 7 to 9 p.m. More than 140 cities and thousands of people will participate in an important conversation about engaging our culture as Christians to advance the common good. The evening will include video talks from David Brooks (Cultural Commentator, The New York Times), Kara Powell (Fuller Youth Institute and author, Right Click) and Propaganda (activist and author) and three local talks on topics relevant to our city. We will share details soon. Save the date—Oct. 26 — and make plans to join this conversation. For more information and to reserve your spot, visit qcommons.com/austin.

VISIONS LUNCHEON IS TUESDAY!

Join us for the first VISIONS (Very Interesting Seniors Investigating Our New Season of life) luncheon of the 2017-18 year on Tuesday, Sept, 19, at 11:45 a.m. Mike Barnes, Sports Director for KVUE, will kick off our new year. Learn what is going on in the world of sports from someone who knows! Come for good fellowship, good food and a fun program. Make a reservation by calling the church office at (512) 454-5231. Cost of the luncheon is \$6 at the door.

VISIONS ACTIVITIES DAY OCTOBER 3

The next VISIONS Activities Day is Tuesday, Oct. 3. Check the kiosk or the next edition of Covenant Matters for the title of the movie. Games, bingo and puzzles start at 10 a.m. in FE 200, lunch is at noon and the movie will be shown at 1 p.m. Guests are welcome. Donations are accepted for lunch and reservations are not required. For more information contact Sue Gunnels (214) 403-7981.

ARMCHAIR TRAVELERS IS OCTOBER 5

On Thursday evening, Oct. 5, come, hear and see John and Suzanne McFarlane's adventures in Antarctica—the land like nowhere else. Hear how many kinds of penguins and seals the couple saw, and how many whale and polar bear sightings they experienced. Armchair Travelers meets in FE 200 at 7 p.m. Refreshments and fellowship are plenty during intermission. For more information, contact Marv Hackert at m.hackert@utexas.edu.

COVENANT MATTERS

COVENANT LAB COMING IN OCTOBER

"The Psalms" is the theme of our October Covenant Lab. The class will run four Sundays, starting Oct. 8, at 9:30 a.m. in CO 208, and will be led by Sandy Kress. Sandy has a deep background in law and government. He has been an associate or partner at law firms in Washington, D.C., Dallas and Austin, and has served in the administrations of Presidents Carter and George W. Bush. His commitment over the last 20 years has been on the nonpartisan endeavor of public education reform. Most recently, he has turned his energy to studying, writing and teaching on religious matters. He has taught courses on books of the Jewish Bible, the Talmud, ethics eldership and Jewish sages. Contact Kathryn Sedberry at ksedberry@covenant.org to learn more.

MEET YOUR DEACON IN OCTOBER

October is Meet-Your-Deacon Month. Every Sunday during October, Covenant Deacons will be on the patio. The mission of our Deacons is to ensure that members of the Covenant church family receive the care, support and encouragement needed to face life's challenges. Your Deacon will contact you to let you know which Sunday(s) she or he will be out.

HOW CAN I HELP HARVEY VICTIMS?

Covenant's mission partner, Austin Disaster Relief Network (ADRN), is working with people affected by damage of Hurricane Harvey. While the organization's needs are constantly changing, a current urgent need is clean-up kits. Find instructions for creating kits at adrn.org. They can be dropped off at the Hope Family Thrift Store, 1122 E. 51st Street, and the 360 Warehouse, 1905 South Capitol of Texas Highway.

You can also sign up as an ADRN Volunteer. ADRN volunteers must take orientation and preparedness training. A full list of all sessions can be found at adrn.org/events. Find the most up-to-date information about donation, volunteering, training times and more at covenant.org/harveyservice. Questions? Contact Covenant's ADRN liaison Steve Bissell at sbissell@austin.rr.com or Kay Austin at kaustin@covenant.org.

Financial Update

August 31, 2017

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
GENERAL FUND		
Revenues	\$2,139,799	\$2,157,044
Expenses	<u>1,986,177</u>	<u>2,266,205</u>
	153,622	-109,161
BUILDING FUND		
Total Loan Balance		\$1,570,560
Principal Reduction YTD		\$1,495,167



SEPTEMBER 17, 2017

COVENANT.ORG COVENANT.AUSTIN @CPCAUSTIN

READY TO SERVE, CARE, LEAD AND PRAY?

Covenant's Congregational Nominating Committee (CNC) needs your help to identify church members who are ready and willing to serve as a Deacon, Elder or Trustee. Brochures that explain these positions and the process for submitting confidential recommendations to the CNC are located in the Sanctuary narthex, the lobby of the Fellowship and Education Building and the church office. For more information, contact CNC chair Regina Schlotter at rlschlotter@gmail.com.

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR HOPEFEST

Gently used infant, child, teen and maternity clothing, and baby gear such as strollers, Pack-n-Plays and high chairs are being collected for HopeFest at Reagan Early College High School on Oct. 28. Fall is a great time to clean out those closets and drawers, and donate those clothes your kids have outgrown. Donation boxes are conveniently located in the foyers of the Fellowship and Education Building and Covenant Hall. Questions? Contact Alison Means at ameans@gmail.com.

SUPPORT EAST AUSTIN YOUNG LIFE KIDS

Covenant supports Northeast Austin Young Life serving students at Reagan, Lanier and LBJ High Schools. This ministry has opportunities for individual Covenant members to serve!

- Mentor a college student volunteer leader. Meet at least once a month for a meal or prayer, provide gift cards for them to spend on the kids.
- Provide a meal for weekly club meetings. Small groups or classes can prepare or buy food for one or more of the meetings.
- Pray for the ministry.

To volunteer, contact Chris Fisher, cfisher@austin.younglife.org, (512) 669-1577 or Melissa Gaskill, mlg6310@sbcglobal.net.

WEBB EARLY COLLEGE PREP MENTORS NEEDED

Do you want to make a positive difference in the life of a child? Be a mentor to a Webb student! Register with Austin Partners in Education at austinpartners.org if you can commit to having lunch one day a week with your student to listen, encourage and inspire him or her. You will need to do a background check and attend a mentor orientation. For more information, contact Julie Weeks at (512) 797-4847 or jweeks@austinvoices.org.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Covenant is looking for a few volunteers to collect money on Wednesday night for dinners from 5 to 6:15 p.m. during the school year, September through May. These volunteers would take money, sign up additional volunteers to serve food, count the money and take it to the church office. To volunteer, contact Kathryn Sedberry at ksedberry@covenant.org.

MANOS FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

The Manos de Cristo food pantry is nearly bare! Manos is critically short on food and clothing as its usual resources are closed to Manos clients due to Harvey. Key items needed include juice, shelf milk, beans (canned and loose), canned soup, macaroni and cheese, and cereal. Covenant has a collection place in Eaton Hall for Manos donations. Contact Cheryl Banks at cherylbanks5@gmail.com.

ROCK-A-BYE MINISTRY NEEDS YOU!

Covenant's Rock-a-Bye Ministry cares for Covenant families with new babies. The ministry is looking for a new coordinator. The coordinator's main task is to find people to help provide meals for the growing families. Learn more by contacting Elizabeth Clough at ebethclough@gmail.com.

MOM'S LUNCH BUNCH COORDINATOR

Covenant's Mom's Lunch Bunch is seeking a new coordinator. The group meets only four times a year over lunch at Covenant to hear from a special speaker. It's a great informational and fun meeting for working moms. Childcare provided. To learn more, contact Amy Johnson at aanort@yahoo.com. Mom's Lunch Bunch will meet next on Monday, Oct. 23.

EAT, PRAY, RUN

Eat, Pray, Run is a new running/walking group that meets at Covenant's Prayer Labyrinth Wednesdays at 6:15 p.m. This is a great group to bring friends to and drop in as your schedule allows.

FOLLOW COVENANT ON INSTAGRAM

We have a new way of staying in touch. Follow us on Instagram [@cpcaustin](https://www.instagram.com/cpcaustin).

WHAT'S FOR DINNER? WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER MENU

SEPTEMBER 20
Moroccan Chicken
Spiced Lentils
Carrots
Dessert

SEPTEMBER 27
Chicken Gumbo
White Rice
Tossed Salad
Dessert

Every Wednesday night, Covenant prepares meals for the congregation in the Fellowship Hall. Enjoy a tasty dinner at 5 p.m., then attend one of Covenant's many Wednesday night activities! Cost is \$6 per person or \$20 per family.

Susan Holman Honored at Fall Brunch

Susan Holman was named an Honorary Lifetime Member at the PW fall kick-off brunch for her "tireless, devoted and amazing" service to Covenant! A friend described her: "She is all over the place, working on committees and looking for ways to make Covenant a better place."

Some of the many ways Susan has been involved include: helping with children's choirs, teaching Sunday school, serving in many capacities with PW, serving as an elder, a pastor nominating committee member, as a Stephen minister, and leading the effort to create the new picture directory! Congratulations, Susan!

COVENANT DIRECTORIES ARE HERE!

Covenant members may pick up our long-awaited pictorial directory on the patio this Sunday. There is a one directory limit per family, and each will be labeled. The books may also be picked up in the office during the week from Maureen Crawley. Contact her at mcrawley@covenant.org if you have questions.

THEOLOGY ON TAP IS MEETING LATER

This brand new young adult group will meet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 21 at the Tigress Pub, 100 W North Loop Blvd. Text Kate Murphy at (281) 433-3700 for info.

NAVIGATING SCHOOL PROGRAMS

How do you navigate school programs to figure out if they are open to your child? Covenant Children and Family Ministry and Ensemble Therapy are partnering to present three workshops. On Sunday, Oct. 15, from 9:30 to 11 a.m., renowned child therapist Jaclyn Sepp will present "Demystifying and Navigating School Programs." Parents will hear how to identify the criteria required for children to qualify for 504, special education, gifted and talented, and dyslexia programs; how to recognize their legal rights; and discover helpful ways to advocate for their child's academic needs. Covenant is sponsoring these important workshops so our community can attend for FREE! Childcare is also free when reserved at least 48 hours in advance by emailing childcare@covenant.org. To register for the workshop, email kate@ensembletherapy.com.

LOOKING FOR NEW HANDBELL RINGERS

Have you been in a musical group and are missing that fun? Handbells has an opportunity for you! We need additional ringers in the adult handbell choir, Pro Musica. If you read music and would like to try it, visit our rehearsal on Sunday from 4:30 to 6 p.m. in Sanctuary, Room 106. If you have questions, contact Linda Rutherford at lindar@kw.com, or call or text at (512) 970-7529.