

# WELCOME TO FAMILY WORSHIP SERVICE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2025

Mission & Outreach Update: Standing With Our Immigrant Neighbors

In the wake of recent Customs and Border Patrol activity in Charlotte, Covenant elders and staff have prayerfully worked to discern faithful next steps. Guided by Scripture's persistent drumbeat—welcome the stranger, for you were once a stranger—we are focusing our energy on the work that protects the most vulnerable and strengthens our shared community. Visit covenantpresby.org/neighbors for information.

# A Service for Lament and Longing

Sunday, November 23, 4:00 p.m.; front lawn of Amity Presbyterian Church We gather in love and solidarity—standing alongside those in our city who have been affected by last week's ICE raids. This service is being organized in partnership with ministers across the Charlotte area.

Together, we will lift our prayers, share our longing for peace, and bear witness to God's compassion in the midst of hurt and uncertainty. This will be a peaceful, outdoor gathering. Please bring a lawn chair.

All are welcome. May our presence be a sign of comfort, courage, and God's abiding love.

# Pick up Advent Devotions

This advent season, we encourage you to puncture each day with a moment of looking for hope, a conscious paying attention to the details of life gifted by God, a holy moment of wondering and searching for glimpses of God. Throughout the advent devotion, you will find stories of faithful waiting, of searching for peace in tension, of looking for hope despite the circumstances, and of joy peeking through it all. Sign up to receive the devotions emailed to your inbox each day by writing "Advent" on your WRC or pick up a paper copy of the devotional at church beginning today.

# Prepare Thanksgiving Dinners for our Neighbors

November 24 and 25

This year, Covenant will continue our cherished tradition of celebrating Thanksgiving with our neighbors at Moore Place and The Rise on Clanton by cooking a holiday meal for residents. Volunteers are invited to prepare and deliver food — write "Thanksgiving" on your WRC to take part in this meaningful ministry.

### Fireside Chat Series

November 30, December 7 & 14, 9:30 a.m. in FH 205

Join us for a three-week series inspired by Tattoos on the Heart by Father Greg Boyle - a book that has deeply shaped our community toward radical kindness, compassion, and trust in the slow work of God. Centered around our Advent theme, "A Thrill of Hope: Discerning God in the World," we will listen in on meaningful conversations exploring how God's quiet, healing work often unfolds through tenderness and attentive presence. No reading or preparation needed.

# Reynosa Mission Trip Interest Meeting

Sunday, November 23, 10:30 a.m. in WC204

Have you ever wondered what it's like to serve on an international mission trip? Join us for the Reynosa Interest Meeting to hear stories from past travelers, connect with trip leaders, ask questions, and learn how you can be part of the March 1–7, 2026 mission experience.

# Highland Giving Tree

Gifts Due Sunday, December 7; Welcome Center
A Covenant tradition to support Highland students.
Choose a paper "ornament" hanging on the tree describing
a requested gift. Purchase, wrap, and bring
this gift to the Welcome Center by Sunday, December 7,
for delivery to students on Thursday, December 11.

### Room in the Inn

Monday, December 8

Covenant welcomes our neighbors experiencing homelessness by hosting Room in the Inn. On December 8, the congregation has an opportunity to work together to ensure our neighbors have a warm tasty meal and breakfast the next morning. Families are encouraged to participate by preparing food in advance and/or serving our neighbors. Write "RITI" on your WRC to sign up to volunteer to serve or prepare food.

# Christmas Eve Children's Play

Wednesday, December 24 at 10:00 a.m.

Calling all kids ages 5 or in Kindergarten who would like to take part in our Christmas Eve play about the birth of Jesus. All are welcome to join! You do not need to be a church member to participate. Kids will rehearse during the 9:30 Sunday School hour during the month of December and will perform on Christmas Eve. If you know of any child that is interested, please contact Amber Brown for more details. We'd love to have them be part of this special celebration.