

From Our Pastor . . .	1
Pray, News & \$\$. . .	2
Sermons & PW News . . .	3
Spotlight . . .	4
Children & Youth . . .	5
Chili/Gumbo Cookoff . . .	6
Lenten Schedule . . .	7

**A Newsletter For The Friends of
Covington Presbyterian Church**

222 South Jefferson Avenue
Covington, LA 70433
(985) 892-4821
www.covpresby.org
March, 2018

Adult Education . . .	8
Into Our Community . . .	9
A Joyful Noise . . .	10
Lily Order Form . . .	11
Calendar of Events . . .	12

Diaconate Tweaks the Shepherding Model



The Covington Presbyterian Diaconate has decided to tweak its current model in regard to caring for its members. In the past, they have used the “Shepherding Strategy,” which involves assigning a specific deacon to a specific number of members within the congregation. The shepherd would call on their members from time to time, send notes, cards, emails, etc., and generally care for their particular flock. The simple math indicates that 9 deacons would each be responsible for 22 persons each at CPC. Although this seems reasonable and an easy mark to attain, it has not proved to be that simple. There have been mixed reviews as to whether or not this approach has been helpful.

A new strategy was suggested and is focused on a “needs-based strategy.” It draws upon known need within the congregation and focuses care upon those with identified need. The new strategy intends to start with the good work already happening within our congregation. Therefore, those identified needs on the back of our Order of Worship as well as those needs we identify from our Diaconate callers, other CPC callers and the email prayer list (Betty’s list) will form the basis of our flock. This is an effort to use gifts appropriately in caring for those with need. Those without any identified need or any health, emotional, financial, or other physiological related need are important to our congregation. There will be continued efforts to keep in touch with these members, but our focus will remain on those with identified need.

This new strategy is dependent upon good communication. Communication is often easy and hard all at the same time. We plan to use our Order of Worship, callers, and other spontaneous conversations to develop a list of those persons who have needs. We will attempt to communicate these needs in our worship during the Pastoral Prayer, our email Prayer List, and via the Lamplighter. If you are aware of any need that should be reported to the Diaconate, you may call or email the Church Office, the Pastor, or one of our deacons directly. They will distribute information and arrange for the care of that particular need.

It is “Shepherding,” that serves as a primary image for this model of care. The Moderator of the Diaconate will serve as primary point of contact for any list of those persons under the care of Deacons. Please do not hesitate to call or email if you have any questions and/or concerns regarding our new strategy and the work of the Diaconate. We remain ready to serve. You may contact Dick Hastings, Moderator of the Diaconate, at 985-237-4335 or dickhastings@bellsouth.net, or Ann Boushie, Secretary of the Diaconate, at 985-237-9966 or dnaboushie@bellsouth.net. You may also contact the Pastor at 985-809-8888 or via email at pastor@covpresby.org.

Shepherding with you,

Jeff

Please Pray For . . .

If you have a prayer request, contact Betty Badeaux. email: jamesbadeaux@aol.com
Phone: 892-6247



Important: Please let the office know if your prayer request below is no longer needed so we can keep the prayer list up to date.

Gregory Bienvenu, Jr. (health)
Beth Cardon (healing)
Infant, Amelia Cardon (healing)
The Carrs-Transition to new home
Jean Carriere (health)
Matt Cole (pain)
Cab Fielding (health)
Dick & Linda Fitch (health)
Flood Victims
Katie Landry (health)
Candy Lane (health)
Leadership of CPC
Lem & Mary Jane McCoy (health)
Military and their families
Stephanie Mize (chemo)
Northlake Crisis Pregnancy Center

Officers/Leadership
Pastor Nominating Committee
Wyman Rutland (health)
STPH community (recent accident)
Michelle Scott (recovery/surgery)
Valora Spencer (strength)
USA: Safety of our troops/citizens
The Vaneks - (new baby)
Grant Voyles (recovery-health)
Linda Voyles (multiple myeloma)
Wanda Watkins (transition-new care facility)
Julie Walsdorf (back pain/family)
Joel Wiegand (hurt shoulder)

Missions:

Habitat for Humanity
Family Promise
Evergreen Life Services

STAIR
Northshore Food Bank

A MESSAGE FROM THE SESSION:

The Session has approved an extension on Rev. Jeff Sims' contract through August 15, 2018.

The Session is grateful for the faithful service and diligence that Rev. Sims has given and will continue to give in serving the Lord and this church during this time.

Thank you Rev. Sims!

CALLED SESSION MEETING:



**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**

On Sunday, **March 4** at **9:30AM**, we will have a Called Session Meeting for the purpose of examining and receiving new members. This will take place in the two story Education Building.

CAN YOU USE?

On occasion folks have graciously donated to CPC items that they, for whatever reason, no longer need or use. We would like to give them away if anyone has a use for a:

Wheelchair

Canes

Walkers

Please see Rev. Sims if you would like to take any of these home to keep.



FINANCIALLY | SPEAKING



Month of January

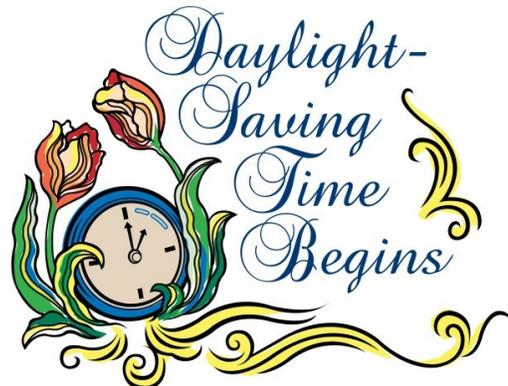
Pledges & Gifts received in January were \$97,138. For the year-to-date through January, Pledges & Gifts are under budget by \$2,069.

Full financial statements are available in the church office.

Thank you for your support of Covington Presbyterian Church.

Clara Rutland
Bookkeeper

In the USA, at 2 a.m. on 11 March 2018, clocks will be forwarded one hour, marking the beginning of Daylight Saving Time



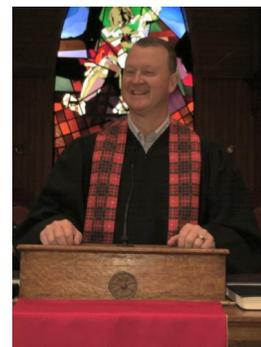
Bible Readings ... for the month of March, 2018

- March 4:** Ex. 20:1-17; Ps. 19, 1 Cor. 1:18-25; John 2:13-22
- March 11:** Num. 21:4-9; Ps. 107:1-3, 17-22; Eph. 2:1-10; John 3:14-21
- March 18:** Jer. 31:31-34; Ps. 51:1-12; Heb. 5:5-10; John 12:20-33
- March 25:** (Holy Week begins) Palms: Mark 11:1-11; Ps. 118:1-2, 19-29
Passion: Isa. 50-4-9a; Ps. 31:9-16; Phil. 2:5-11; Mark 14:1-15:47

Sermons

...but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory,

- March 4:** “Enlighten My Eyes, Lord!” Psalm 19
- March 11:** “God is So Good!” Psalm 107:1-4
- March 18:** “Make My Heart Pure!” Psalm 51:1-12
- March 25:** “My Times in Your Hands!” Psalm 31:9-16



PW CIRCLES:

The Presbyterian Women will continue with the booklet they are currently studying, “Cloud of Witnesses.” The next meeting of **Mary/Martha Circle** will take place Tuesday, **March 13 at 9:30am** at the home of Puddin Hawkins. The **Night Circle** will meet on Tuesday, **March 13 at 5:30pm** at CPC and is led by Dianne Kaack.

LADIES Spring Gathering

**ALL Ladies Are Invited to
A Ladies' Spring Gathering LUNCHEON
Saturday, May 5th
1 PM
IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL
Everything is provided**



In the Spotlight



*This month we are spotlighting
our newest staff member . . .*

Dakota Jenkins
CPC welcomes you!



As the newest member of the staff here at Covington Presbyterian Church, I am filled with excitement and joy to take on the new challenges presented to me as the choir director. In my first edition of *Grace Notes*, I would like to take an opportunity to let you get to know me.

I was born in Hammond, and have lived in Loranger for most of my life, and grew up the eldest of five siblings. I had an interest in music at a young age, and when I was five years old, I began taking piano lessons. When I got to middle school, I had the option to join the band and learn another instrument, and of course, I was all in! I began to learn the saxophone and was an active band member all the way through high school.

When I started my undergraduate degree in 2012, I decided to stick with the saxophone and went into the music education program. Halfway through my sophomore year, I found myself practicing my piano more often than my saxophone, and decided to get back to my roots. I changed my major to piano performance.

When I changed my major to piano performance, I was required to sing in the University Chorus to fulfill my required credits. I had never sung in a choir before then, and when I walked into the first rehearsal of the semester, I felt as if I had stepped into an alien planet. That semester, the choir put on a performance of George Frederik Handel's *The Messiah*. As strange as this new experience was, after the performance, I was hooked, and wanted to join the University's Concert Choir. I auditioned, was accepted, and continued to sing with the Concert choir for the rest of my undergraduate degree.

As I was becoming more interested in in the choral world, I began to have a growing interest in conducting. I enrolled in the choral conducting class, and later on began taking private conducting lessons. When I graduated I was hungry to learn more, and began my graduate degree in choral conducting the next semester.

When I am finished with my graduate degree, I hope to go on to teach. As deep as my passion for music is, my passion for education and the passing on of knowledge goes even deeper.

I am excited to start this next chapter of my life at Covington Presbyterian Church, and look forward to all of the challenges, lessons, and rewards that are sure to come with it!

“The aim and final end of all music should be none other than the glory of God and the refreshment of the soul.”

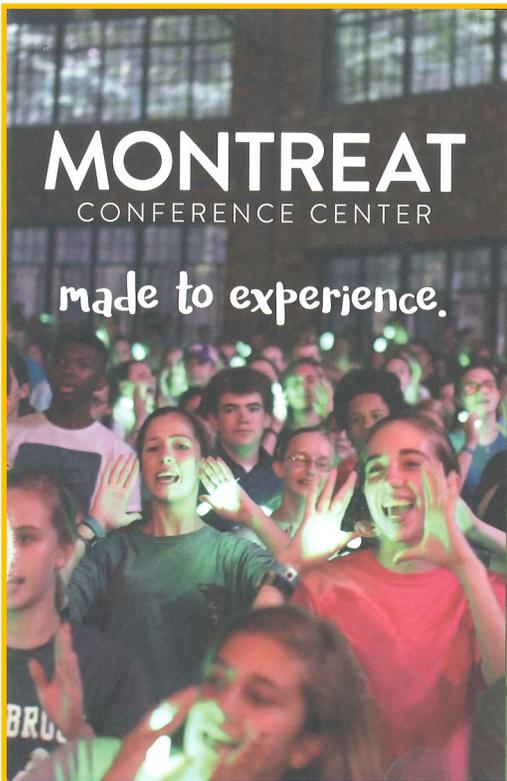
-Johann Sebastian Bach

CHILDREN & YOUTH

5



Save the date for an exciting upcoming Vacation Bible School this summer!



We have limited spots available for the Montreat and MoRanch trips, so the sooner you sign up with your deposit, the better. Spots are only guaranteed with a deposit. Below is information about the MoRanch Jr. High Jubilee trip (for junior high) and Montreat (for high school).

Mo Ranch Jr. High Jubilee in Hunt, TX- July 8th-12th, 2018

- 6th-8th grades (having just completed)
- Total Cost: \$450
- Sign Up Deadline: March 1, 2018 (if you sign up after this date the cost increases to \$500)
- Sign Up Deposit: \$150
- Final Payment will be due May 1, 2018

Montreat in Montreat, NC- July 21st-28th, 2018

- 9th-12th grades (having just completed)
- Total Cost: \$500
- Sign Up deadline: March 1, 2018 (if you sign up after this date the cost increases to \$550)
- Sign Up Deposit: \$150
- Final Payment will be due May 1, 2018.

For more information, please contact Michelle Broadrick @ (225) 364-7059 or tnsaps@yahoo.com

MORE YOUTH NEWS: March meetings for youth will be **Sunday, March 11 from 4-6pm**, daylight savings time. We will be playing games outside, weather permitting, to enjoy the daylight. Tacos for dinner. Please remember to continue saving cans. Youth Director, Michelle Broadrick, also needs 10 empty 2 liter plastic bottles for a fun bowling game. Youth and any other volunteers are needed to help set up Easter Lilies on **Friday, March 30th**. Delivery time still to be determined. 36 pairs of socks were made and are on their way to the Presbyterian Children's Home.

Chili Cook-Off!



The grand winners in each category: Spicy Chili: Dick Hastings; Best Chili: Ellen Manuel; Best Gumbo: Chuck & Ann Morton. Pictured below: Good fellowship and food happening while raising funds for Northshore Food Bank too.



Lent IS A TIME TO GROW CLOSER TO JESUS



LUNCH & LENT: Lunch & Lent will occur weekly during the season of Lent. Each Wednesday at 12 PM we will meet in the Fellowship Hall to enjoy a meal and a time of reflection. Please bring your own lunch.



PALM SUNDAY: March 25th at 10:30AM: There will be a special Palm Sunday Worship Service with a processional of Palms.



After the Palm Sunday worship service on **March 25**, 2018, there will be a **Potluck Lunch** in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring a main dish and a side dish, salad or dessert. The children will be delighted to join in for a lively **Easter Egg Hunt** directly following the service.



MAUNDY THURSDAY: There will be a solemn Maundy Thursday service at **6PM**, **March 29th** in the sanctuary.



GOOD FRIDAY: The church doors will be open for anyone that would like to come and have a time of quiet prayer.

EASTER SUNDAY: On Easter Sunday, **April 1**, we will have a lovely worship service with communion as we celebrate the Risen Savior. You are invited to join us in worship at **10:30AM**.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING:

During the Easter service an offering, “One Great Hour of Sharing”, will be received. Join in God’s call to share our bread with the hungry, to aid and shelter people overcoming catastrophe and conflict, and to resource communities working to cast off the bonds of poverty and oppression.

Sharing God’s love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed reminds us of the verse in Isaiah 58, “You shall be called “Repairers of the Breach.””



We offer several small group ministries each week and month:



Sunday Morning:

9:15 am - Connections Class in the Ria Warner Classroom - A group dedicated to reading the "Upper Room" devotional series each week.

9:15 am - ADULT BIBLE STUDY: The Bible Study group that meets in the room next to the church office at 9:15 is a study on various topics and books of the Bible.

9:00 am - Fellowship Class in the Fellowship Hall - A group dedicated to prayer, community, and intriguing discussion. Curriculum varies. The current Bible study is from the book titled "The Story, The Bible as One Continuous Story of God and His People." Class members will rotate leading the weekly sessions. This will be an ongoing Bible study for many weeks and all adults are invited to join us.



Wednesday Morning: 10 am - Wednesday morning Bible study group that joins together every week to discuss various topics. Come join the group for a study of the book of Acts. The study guide, "Life Lessons - Acts" explores how the same men who doubted in Galilee argued in Capernaum, and ran for their lives in Gethsemane are transformed by the resurrected King in the book of Acts.

Every other week - Boomers Group: - A group of mostly Baby Boomers who delve into various book studies. Look in the newsletter or church bulletin for more details. For the month of January the Boomers will meet on **March 11th and 25th**.



Twice Monthly:



Pastors' Bible Study: An overview of the Bible led by Rev. Zac Ritchie and Rev. Jeff Sims. Meetings alternate:

For the month of February:

Friday, March 9, 12:30PM Madisonville Presbyterian Church.

Friday, March 23, 12:30PM Covington Presbyterian Church

Monthly: Presbyterian Women Mary Martha Circle - The second Tuesday of the month:

Mary/Martha Circle will meet on March 13 at 9:30 at the home of Puddin Hawkins and the Night circle will meet on **March 13 at 5:30pm** in the Fellowship Hall.



Seniors' Group ("Prime Timers") - A mostly social gathering of Senior Adults who gather for fellowship, food and prayer. Mark your calendars now for Sunday, March 18, right after church for lunch and a program featuring "Celtic Tales" as developed and presented by CPC member Mur Kuhn. You'll enjoy fellowship, the program, and a tasty lunch (lasagna, salad, and dessert, for price of \$10 per person). When it's over, you may know why a spider influenced Scottish history or remember a fairy tale about why a Blue Cap saved a crofter's life. Prime Timers, watch your email or US mail next week for reservation details.




Celebrate with us!

Please join us at West St Tammany's
Survivors' and Caregivers' Luncheon,
at our 2018 Relay for Life – *"Leprechaun Bash"*!

When: March 10th,
beginning at 1:15

Where: Lakeview Regional Medical Center

Invite your family and friends to come out for a day of
family fun, with the luminaria ceremony at 7pm.

Please RSVP to Ruthanne at 985-789-5429, or
RelayforLifeWestStTammany@gmail.com by 3/3.




NORTHSHORE FOOD BANK:

Thank you to all who continue to donate to the North Shore Food Bank.

Our goal this year will be 8,000 pounds. Remember, you can donate actual food or you can include a check made out to Covington Presbyterian Church in the offering plate. Just be sure to write "Food Bank" on the memo line.

Leprechaun Bash
West St. Tammany's 2018 Relay for Life

Inflatables Games Entertainment Food
Fun!

Saturday, March 10, 2018
12 noon – 7:30pm
Lakeview Regional Medical Center
Rainy Day Location: Fontainebleau High

Wear your Green and enjoy Family-style
St. Patrick's Day Fun.

All Proceeds go to the American Cancer Society
for cancer research and programs for cancer patients.




STAIR UPDATE:

At this time there are nine students at Covington Elementary School receiving one-on-one tutoring every Monday and Wednesday afternoon. In recent evaluations these STAIR students show increased reading fluency. Tutors and students read together during each session. This practice of "I read to you, you read to me, we read together" is an interesting and fun way to improve this important reading skill.



Make a *Joyful* noise unto the Lord
Psalm 98:4



“Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing... Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.” Psalm 100:1-2, 4

Worship through music is an integral part of giving thanks to God, but all too often people refrain from worshiping God through song because they feel they have no musical talent, or they can't sing well enough. As a kid, I always made fun of my mom's singing in church, but she would always reply with the same response; “The Bible says make a *Joyful* noise, not a *pretty* noise”.

It doesn't matter how well you can sing, God wants you to praise him anyway. Any time we lift up our voices in his name, he is pleased with us. However, if you're afraid of singing with the choir because of your singing, I have the belief that anyone can learn to sing well. Over time, with a little instruction, anyone can learn to produce a beautiful sound with the instrument God gave them.

You need no formal training to sing in the choir, nor do you have to have a “beautiful voice”. Come and sing with us, and God may use you in ways you thought were not possible.

Dakota Jenkins

If you are interested in joining the choir and making a ‘joyful noise’, you may contact me at: Dakota.jenkins@selu.edu (985) 415-9466



Easter Lily Order Form



If you would like to give a lily(s) for the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 1, please complete this form and return it to the church office or place in the offering plate with your check. Make your check payable to CPC and indicate "Easter Lilies" on the memo line. The cost of one Lily is \$10.00 each. **Deadline to order: Wednesday, March 14**

IN MEMORY OF . . .

(Please print)

I N HONOR OF . . .

I would like to order _____ lilies at \$10.00 each.

Telephone _____ and/or email _____

Check enclosed for \$ _____

Given by: _____

(Please print)



The Easter season is upon us! We will have our annual lilies decorating the sanctuary during the Easter season. CPC members and friends will have an opportunity to order the flowers for \$10.00 each. You may dedicate a memorial or honor someone through this beautiful floral presentation. Your lilies will add to the charm of our lovely church for the season that we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord in worship.

You will find the order form on the reverse side inserted in the worship bulletin this Sunday and next Sunday only. Please fill out the form and place your orders early. You may drop them in the offering plate or bring by the office. **You are encouraged to take home your lilies after worship on Easter Sunday.**

Order deadline: **Wednesday, March 14**

Covington
Presbyterian
Church

March

P.O. Box 819
Covington, LA 70434
985-892-4821
secretary@covpresby.org

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

				1	2	3
					Mary Jane McCoy	8:30 Work Day 9:30 PW Council
4 9:00 Adult Classes 9am Confirmation Class 9:15 Connections Class 10:30 Worship Jennifer Wirtz	5	6 7pm Kiwanis Alicia Lemonier	7 10am Bible Study 12pm Lunch & Lent* 5:30pm Choir <i>Choir</i> Beth Cardon	8	9 12:30 Pastors' Bible Study Madisonville Presbyterian	10 8:30 Work Day WORK DAY
11 Daylight Savings 9:00 Adult Classes 9am Confirmation Class 9:15 Connections Class 10:30 Worship 11:30 Boomers Group 4pm Youth Group* Ruthanne Hilker	12 4:30 Scouts* Ann Harper	13 7am Kiwanis 9:30 Mary/Martha Circle 5:30 Night Circle*	14 10am Bible Study 12pm Lunch & Lent* 5:30pm Choir <i>Choir</i> Lily Order Deadline Dick Hastings	15 6-8pm Kiwanis Key Club*	16	17 8:30 Work Day WORK DAY
18 9:00 Adult Classes 9:15 Connections Class 10:30 Worship 11:30 Prime Timers 5pm Confirmation Class	19 Nick Smith	20 7am Kiwanis* 6pm Session*	21 10am Bible Study 12pm Lunch & Lent* 5:30pm Choir <i>Choir</i>	22	23 12:30 Pastors' Bible Study Covington Presbyterian*	24 8:30 Work Day WORK DAY Regina Taft
 25 Palm Sunday 9:00 Adult Classes 9:15 Connections Class 10:30 Worship 11:30 Boomers Group 11:30 Easter Egg Hunt 11:30 Potluck Lunch* 1:30 Confirmation Class	26	27 7am Kiwanis*	28 10am Bible Study 12pm Lunch & Lent* 5:30pm Choir <i>Choir</i> Carol Lapari	29 6pm Maundy Thursday  Candy Pendleton	30 Good Friday Doors open for quiet prayer	31 8:30 Work Day WORK DAY

 Birthday  Communion *Fellowship Hall

Remember ~ Every Sunday is Food Bank Sunday.



Covington Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 819
Covington, LA 70434