

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Special Mercy Offering** — Today, we are collecting a special mercy offering for Hurricane Harvey and Irma disaster response to be given to the PCA's Mission to North America (MNA) Disaster Response, which we support because of their biblical approach to assistance that benefits both body and soul. You can also give directly to support their work at <http://pcamna.org/disaster-response>. Please also stop by our Disaster Response Ministry table in the main lobby this morning to find out more about this Christ Covenant ministry and how you can get involved.

**Dessert Reception for Our Small Group Leaders** — All of our Covenant Group leaders, men's small group leaders, and their spouses are invited to join us for a special evening on Thursday, October 19, at 7 p.m. in CLC rooms 1 and 2. We want to thank you for your service in our ministry at Christ Covenant and learn from your experience as leaders as we launch a new year together.

**Help Build a Habitat House!** — Christ Covenant helping to build a house for the Kingombe family in Matthews' Crestdale community. Help is needed on October 21 and November 18. No construction background is necessary, but builders must be at least 17 years old (or 16, accompanied by a parent). On October 21 and November 18, we also need to provide 25 bag lunches for the site volunteers. Children are welcome to help prepare these meals! If you are interested in serving or having your group serve on any of these dates, please contact Karen Chambers.

**Reformation Conference and Celebration** — All are invited to celebrate the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Protestant Reformation at a conference on Friday, October 27, and Saturday, October 28. "The Gospel of Grace & Glory: The Reformation at 500 and Counting" is a conference sponsored by Christ Covenant Church and Reformed Theological Seminary. The conference will feature messages on the Five Solas (see below) and breakout sessions. The cost is \$25/person (\$50/family) with financial assistance available. More details and registration are at [christcovenant.org/500](http://christcovenant.org/500).

**Reformation Sunday** — Our Reformation Sunday events on Sunday, October 29, will include a 9 a.m. joint Sunday school class (for middle school and up) led by Kevin DeYoung speaking on "Ad Fontes: The Reformation Slogan We Never Hear About," our morning service (10:45 a.m.) with Mike Kruger preaching, and a 7 p.m. concert with Keith and Kristyn Getty. In lieu of tickets, a love offering will be taken.

**Watching Our Budget** — Thank you for your tithes and gifts to all of the ministries of Christ Covenant. Please continue to pray for God's provision in 2017. As a reminder, the Our Heritage pledge fulfillment period goes through December 2017.

<i>Inflow 1/1/17 – 10/8/17</i>	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Difference</i>	<i>% (-) or +</i>
Operating Budget	3,801,716	3,792,500	9,216	0.24%
Faith Promise Budget	238,605	224,100	14,505	6.47%
<i>12/1/14 – 10/8/17</i>	<i>Gifts Received</i>	<i>3-Year Commitment</i>	<i>Fulfillment %</i>	
Our Heritage	3,528,869	3,500,000	100.82%	

The **Five Solas** are the foundational biblical principles of the Protestant Reformers. These Latin phrases – Sola Scriptura, Sola Gratia, Sola Fide, Solus Christus, and Soli Deo Gloria – tell us that *Scripture alone* is our highest authority and that salvation is by *grace alone*, through *faith alone*, in *Christ alone*, for *God's glory alone*. See our Facebook page for more Reformation information in the coming weeks!

# PRAYER FOCUS THIS WEEK

**The Persecuted Church:** For Christians in Nigeria where the brutal attacks of Boko Haram are responsible for the disruption of the lives of more than 2 million refugees in the last year. Pray for the believers among the homeless.

**Our Presbytery:** Church of the Redeemer, Monroe, and Rev. Adam Mumpower

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

This list shows special and monthly events and start of weekly programs. See our website for more church events/programs and the E-Courier (e-newsletter) for this week's events.

### This Week

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> • Morning and evening worship (10:45 a.m. & 6 p.m.)

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> • Yarn Lovers Ministry (10 a.m.)

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> • Dessert reception for Covenant Group leaders and men's small group leaders (7 p.m.)

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> • Senior Adult men's lunch (11:30 a.m.)

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> • Young Families retreat

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> • Habitat workday

### Upcoming Events

October 22 • Reception for Andy Schuster (following evening worship)

October 23 • Congregational Day of Prayer (7 a.m. - 9 p.m.)

October 24-27 • Senior Adults retreat

October 27-28 • Reformation Conference

October 29 • Children's Reformation Celebration (9 a.m.)

October 29 • Reformation Sunday

October 29 • Getty concert (7 p.m.)

## THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHT

### Operation Christmas Child

*Thanks to God for His inexpressible gift! — 2 Corinthians 9:15*

Operation Christmas Child began putting surprised smiles on children's faces in 1993 when the first shoeboxes full of friendship were given to children living in the worst conditions imaginable. By the end of 2017, the total number of boxes distributed is expected to be more than 155 million, delivered with love to boys and girls in more than 160 countries and territories where gifts of any kind are beyond the reach of families doing all they can to survive each day. Boxes will be delivered to the places where Samaritan's Purse is already delivering relief following humanitarian crises including earthquakes, floods, tornados, violent attacks, famines, hurricanes, and refugee encampments.

Since 2010, more than 11 million shoebox recipients have had the opportunity to participate in *The Greatest Journey*, a 12-session discipleship training session that teaches children what it means to be a follower of Christ. *The Greatest Journey* is led by trained teachers who are able to build relationships with young believers and encourage them as they grow in faith.

Where in the world will your gift go this year? Stop by one of the lobby tables today and get your project started. If you can't shop, there's even an online build a box option for your convenience. Get all the details, the latest list of allowable items, the form for helping to defray shipping costs and directions for getting your box's story on social media. Watch a video and learn more at [samaritanspurse.org](http://samaritanspurse.org) and bring your filled shoebox back to church by Sunday, October 29. Thank you!