



Outside Our Walls

Covenant United Methodist Mission & Outreach Newsletter

November 2026

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Nov.: Christmas Angel Projects

- * Byron gifts & "Share the Feast" Food Collection

Nov. 7: Project 216 Event

Nov. 27: Red Cross Blood Drive

Dec.: Christmas Angel Projects

- * CASA Gifts
- * Christmas Offering

Dec. 12: Covenant Craft Show



**Food Bank
Collection**
"Share the Feast"

with mashed potatoes, stuffing,
canned veggies and fruit,
cranberry sauce,
canned sweet potatoes, etc.

Help make someone else's
holiday meal special!



**September Food
Bank Donations**

28 tubes of toothpaste,
110 bottles of shampoo,
conditioner, & body wash
34 deodorants, 25 hand soap,
8 shaving gels, 50 bars of soap,
50 tooth brushes

Thank you!

CHRISTMAS ANGEL PROJECTS



NOVEMBER

* GIFTS FOR BYRON WELLNESS COMMUNITY RESIDENTS:

(see page 3 for more info)

Fill wish lists from 25 residents, many who are lonely and forgotten at Christmas. If you have questions, this project is being led by Barb Clark and Peg Roser.

- * Wish lists will be available in Fellowship Hall **Sunday, Nov. 8 & 15**
- * Return wrapped gifts by **Sunday, Nov. 22**



* FOOD BANK COLLECTION:

"Share the Feast" with mashed potatoes, stuffing, canned veggies, cranberry sauce, canned fruit and sweet potatoes, etc.; leave donations at the Mission Collection Center



DECEMBER

* GIFTS FOR CHILDREN OF THE CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) PROGRAM: (see page 3 for more info)

- * Find gift wish tags for children on a Christmas tree in the church lobby starting **Sunday, Nov. 29**
- * Wrapped gifts, with the gift wish tag attached, must be returned by **the date found on the gift tag**
- * Or make a monetary gift to Covenant (indicate "CASA gifts"), at covenantumc.net and project leaders, Becky Lewis, Janet Hall & Nikki Miller will shop for you.



* CHRISTMAS OFFERING: Make a special offering during the **month of December** to celebrate the birth of Jesus and make a difference in the lives of others.

- * This Offering will be divided between **Life for Children Ministry** in Kenya, **Inasmuch Ministry** and **Forgotten Stones** both in Fort Wayne.



If you have any questions, contact Barb Hering at barbhering@gmail.com



RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE - **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27 from 8 - 12:30 at COVENANT!**

Consider all you have to be thankful for this Thanksgiving and take some time to think of those who need you to take about an hour of your time during Thanksgiving weekend to make a life saving donation. Imagine how thankful someone else will be for your life saving gift! Someone like Lisa Crowder, whose daughter was only 2 years old, when she was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia. Red Cross blood donors helped save her life so she can grow up and live a full life.

To make your appointment to donate blood at Covenant on **Friday, November 27 from 8 am – 1 pm** contact Gina Loomis at 260-438-2801 or Sam-gina@frontier.com or visit redcrossblood.org

Mission & Outreach Team's Third Quarter Distribution of Faith Promise Giving

The Mission & Outreach Team met on October 12 for their monthly meeting and as a part of the meeting they disbursed the funds donated to Faith Promise Giving during the fiscal third quarter as follows:

Bashor Home \$625;	Food Bank - Associated Churches \$1,099;
Forgotten Stones \$1,374;	Inasmuch Ministry \$2,821;
Life For Children Orphans \$1,098;	Life For Children Ministry Projects \$625;
Missionary Caleb and Amy Cox \$1,400;	Missionary Michael Agwanda \$925;
Rising Stars \$367;	UMCOR \$2,497



Your donations to Faith Promise Giving makes a difference - in Fort Wayne, Dallas and in Kenya.



SUBSTITUTE TUTORS NEEDED - MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN A STUDENT'S LIFE

Want to help a student at Lincoln improve their grades but can't help every week? Consider volunteering to be a substitute tutor. Tutoring at Lincoln meets on Wednesday afternoons after school for about an hour. You'll spend time helping a student with assignments from their teacher, reading, playing games, eating a snack, talking, laughing and sharing.

If interested in learning more about being a sub when the regular tutor can't be there, contact Jenny Hines (260-908-6964 jenniferdhines1964@gmail.com) or Sue Weirich (260-450-6965 skweirich@gmail.com).

UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief)

A simple act of love can become ... shelter, healing, and hope.

When disaster strikes, recovery is a journey. UMCOR helps families rebuild, communities recover and hope endure long after the emergency has passed. When a community is impacted by a natural or civil disaster, The United Methodist Church is there to alleviate suffering and offer critical support, helping communities rebuild their lives and recover over the long term. Disaster response delivers essential supplies like food and water, supports the removal of debris, and provides temporary shelter for the displaced. Make a gift and 100% of your donation goes directly to disaster response.

Donate through Covenant by giving to Faith Promise Giving or online at covenantumc.net or write a check to Covenant (indicate "UMCOR") or donate directly to UMCOR at umcmmission.org



Bake for Birthdays!

Do you like to bake or make desserts? We are looking for volunteers to bake birthday desserts for the men at Inspiration Ministry's Heritage House! They pick what they want and we make it. Let's help these men feel loved on their birthday.

For more info or to volunteer contact Nikki Miller: Nicole.miller@frontier.com / 260-418-0372



CAN YOU DONATE TO FAITH PROMISE GIVING WITHOUT MAKING A COMMITMENT?

Absolutely! Any and all donations will be thankfully accepted and used by the Mission Team to help support our missionaries (Caleb & Amy Cox and Michael Agwanda) and the ministries we support such as Rising Stars (Lincoln School), Inasmuch Ministry, Forgotten Stones, the Food Bank, Bashor Homes, Life for Children Ministry, UMCOR and other needs as they arise. Any and all donations will bless others!

When making a donation to Faith Promise Giving be sure to indicate you want it to go to Faith Promise Giving for the Mission Team to use as they decide would be best.

Questions? Contact Barb Hering at barbhering@gmail.com or 260-414-2907.



In November Covenant will be granting wishes of 25 residents of Byron Wellness Community



Located at 1661 Beacon St, Byron Wellness Community

- is a unique community. Over 30% of their residents have lived there for over 10 years. Byron is their home and family.
- provides exceptional medical care built on inclusion, acceptance, compassion and encouragement.
- is a non-profit, independent community providing long term health care, skilled nursing rehabilitation, memory care, physical & occupational therapy and cognitive interventions.
- serves those who are most vulnerable, meeting the needs of individuals who have complex medical conditions, most often coupled with psychiatric or developmental disorders including traumatic brain injury, mental illness, intellectual developmental disability, Huntington's Disease, and dementia.
- is the first facility in the area with separate memory care neighborhoods for men and women. Individuals with dementia, including Alzheimer's disease, reside in secured memory care neighborhoods for increased structure and safety.

Many Byron residents are lonely and forgotten at Christmas but YOU can brighten their Christmas by purchasing gifts the residents have asked for. Wish lists will be available in Fellowship Hall on **Sunday, Nov. 8**. Please return your wrapped gifts by **Sunday, Nov. 22**.

Questions? Contact Barb Clark

(barbaraclark04091947@gmail.com)

or Peg Roser (picklerpeg@gmail.com)



In December Covenant will be granting wishes of children in the CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) Program.

CASA'S Mission: Support and promote court appointed volunteer advocacy so every abused/neglected child can be safe, have a permanent home and can thrive.

CASA Volunteers look out for the best interests of abused and neglected children in court.

How do volunteers help? Volunteers are appointed by judges to watch over and advocate for abused/neglected children, to make sure they don't get lost in the legal and social service system or languish in inappropriate group or foster homes.

Who are the children the volunteers help?

Children who have been removed from their homes due to abuse or neglect.

How can you volunteer?

Visit allencountycasa.org.

Make Christmas special for a child in the program by giving a gift from the CASA tree (p 1).

If you have any questions or would like to help with the sorting of gifts, contact

Becky Lewis (lewis.4@frontier.com) or

Janet Hall (janet.hall60@gmail.com) or

or Nikki Miller (nicole.miller@frontier.com).

Covenant member and CASA advocate, Deanna Mains, would love to talk with anyone interested in learning more.

You can contact her at deanna.mns@gmail.com.

An Opportunity to Help Lincoln:

STEM Class Supply Drive: Lincoln has launched a brand-new STEM special! To give this program the best possible start, Lincoln is gathering foundational classroom supplies and materials for hands-on learning projects. Review the list of needed items and to sign up to donate materials [click here: STEM Classroom Needs](#). Leave donations at the Mission Collection Center.



STEM is an acronym that stands for

- Science:** The study of the natural and physical world through observation & experimentation (e.g., biology, chemistry, physics). **Technology:** The systems, tools, and digital applications created by humans to solve problems and streamline tasks (e.g., computers, software, robotics) **Engineering:** The design, building, and testing of physical structures, machines, and processes (e.g., bridges, vehicles, electronics) **Mathematics:** The study of numbers, quantities, patterns, and logic used to analyze data and build formulas.

Salvation Army Looking for Volunteers this Christmas



Whether you'd like to:

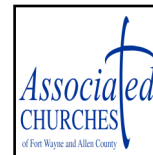
- Assist families as they select toys and clothing for their children
- Help with behind-the-scenes organization
- Assist with sorting, organizing, and preparing gifts
- Lend a hand wherever you're needed
- Or ring a bell

It takes many helping hands to make it all come together, and The Salvation Army would love to have you join them. Together, Christmas can be made memorable for local families.

- **Angel Tree:** assist families with choosing gifts and clothing for their children - [register here](#)
- **Adopt a Family Program:** assist companies and families in bringing gifts in and out of the building for the Adopt a Family Program - [register here](#)
- **Bell Ringers:** There is a desperate need for volunteer bell ringers! All donations collected in a Red Kettle remain in Allen County to fund year-round programs like food pantries, homeless shelters, and utility assistance - [Sign up here](#)
- **Other opportunities:** Interested in data entry, making phone calls, writing thank you cards, hanging clothes, etc., let Jennifer Prichard know (744-2311 ext. 205 or Jennifer.Prichard@usc.salvationarmy.org)

Questions? Contact Covenant member, Marilynn Toops, at treaty_ports@yahoo.com.

Covenant collects food items for Associated Churches Food Pantry located at Gethsemane Lutheran Church (1505 Bethany Lane - off North Clinton Street)



Our community continues to feel the impact of food insecurity and our neighbors are turning to Associated Churches for help in ensuring where their next meal will come from. The Associated Churches food pantries have seen a continued demand in the last year and the resulting economic impact of our nation continues to bring great need and challenges to our community.

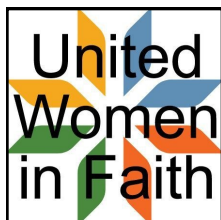
Though Covenant focuses on particular items to be donated each month, (see page 1) donations of the following items are also needed and may be left at the Mission Collection Center:

- ♦ **Grains:** Rice, Oats/Oatmeal, Pasta, Hamburger Helper, Ramen Noodles, Mac & Cheese, Stuffing, Crackers (Any Kind), Cereals, Cake Mix
- ♦ **Proteins:** Canned Tuna/Meat, Canned Beans, Roasted Nuts, Peanut Butter, Granola Bars
- ♦ **Condiments:** Canola, Sesame or Olive Oil, Salt & Pepper, Ketchup, Mustard, Spaghetti Sauce, Jelly, Honey, Salad Dressing, Bar-b-q Sauce
- ♦ **Other:** Jello, Instant Potatoes, Dry Milk / Shelf Stable Milk
- ♦ **Hygiene Products:** Soap/Body Wash, Detergent, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Shampoo/Conditioner, Deodorant, Razors, Toilet Paper, etc.

Please, NO Glass Containers

Financial donations are also needed so eggs, meat, and other refrigerated items can be purchased.

A portion of your Faith Promise Giving will be sent to Associated Churches for the food bank or you may donate to Covenant, indicating "Food Bank" on a check memo line, or donate online at covenantumc.net



On Tuesday, Oct. 6 Mary Ann Mings, Executive Director of Inasmuch Ministry, Circles of Fort Wayne and Forgotten Stones, spoke to Covenant's United Women in Faith sharing her story - how God led her to Ft Wayne and answered her prayers for how to help the homeless which led her to continue the work of Inasmuch Ministry and start Circles of Allen County and Forgotten Stones. It was a most informative meeting and those who attended donated a large number of socks for Mary Ann to distribute to those in need.

Life for Children Ministry



"Why Life for Children Ministry Dreams of Building A Community Medical Center

There are moments in ministry that leave wounds no one can see. Recently, Life for Children Ministry accompanied a group of street-connected boys to a free medical camp organized by a medical mission in Kisian, Kisumu. Many of these boys had been waiting for this opportunity. Some were suffering from untreated infections, skin diseases, respiratory illnesses, and other health conditions that have gone untreated because they simply cannot afford medical care.

They arrived with hope. Instead of receiving treatment, they were turned away. We were advised to take them to a government dispensary instead. For many people, this may have seemed like a simple referral. But for the boys, it felt like another painful reminder that they are unwanted. These are children who have already experienced rejection from their families, society, and the streets. To be turned away while seeking healing only deepens the emotional scars they carry every day.

As we walked away from the medical camp, we could see the disappointment on their faces. Some asked quietly, "Does anyone really care about us?" There was no easy answer. As Life for Children Ministry, we believe that every child deserves to be treated with dignity, compassion, and love; quickly we made the decision to take them to Moscow dispensary where we met all their medical expenses. For over twenty years, we have walked alongside the most vulnerable children in Kisumu, providing food, education, counseling, family reintegration, and hope. Yet one of our greatest challenges remains access to healthcare.

Time and again, we meet children suffering from illnesses that could easily be treated if care were available without discrimination. Delays in treatment often lead to unnecessary pain, worsening infections, and sometimes life-threatening complications. This painful experience has strengthened our desire as a ministry to have our own medial facility.

Our vision is to establish a Life for Children Community Medical Center - a place where no child will ever be rejected because they are poor, homeless, or street-connected. A place where vulnerable families, children, and community members can receive quality medical care with dignity. A place where compassion comes before judgment.

This medical facility would not only provide treatment but also preventive healthcare, health education, counseling, maternal and child health services, and referrals for specialized care. It would become a sanctuary of healing for those who have nowhere else to turn. We cannot build this dream alone.

One day, we believe these children will walk into a medical Centre where they are welcomed by name, treated with respect, and reminded that their lives matter. Until that day comes, Life for Children Ministry will continue standing with the forgotten, advocating for those without a voice, and believing that love can transform lives.

We are prayerfully inviting friends, churches, medical professionals, foundations, corporate partners, and compassionate individuals to join us in making this vision a reality. Whether through financial support, medical equipment, medicines, volunteer services, or strategic partnerships, your contribution can help ensure that no child is ever turned away when they are sick. Together, we can replace rejection with healing, despair with hope, and discrimination with compassion.

Life for Children Ministry; Kisumu, Kenya"

To help Life for Children Ministry in all their different ministries donate to Faith Promise Giving, or to Covenant (indicating "Life for Children Ministry").



Caleb & Amy's Adventures in Ministry with Cru (received 10/21/26)

Every fall, our team leader Benton and I (Caleb) host weekly chapels for the freshman football team after practice. About 30 guys come regularly! We share the gospel with them one week and spend the others discussing stories from the Bible and the life of Jesus.



Outreach to the Freshman football team

I love working with freshmen because it is such a formative year for them. They are figuring out who they are, what they believe, and where they belong. It's easy for athletes to define their identity by their performance and success on the field. But at these chapels, they hear about Jesus' unconditional love for them. Last week, through the story of David facing Goliath, we invited them to trust Jesus with every situation, whether big or small, and find their identity in his love for them.

I'm especially encouraged by how eager these guys are to come and learn more about God. Some have a relationship with Jesus already, but many are learning about him for the first time. Wherever they are in their faith, it's a privilege to tell them about the peace and confidence that Jesus gives.

Thank you for partnering with us to share Jesus' love with high school students! As we've spent some time to focus on growing our team of partners, your generosity amazes us. We're humbled and grateful for each of you who prays for us and gives financially to make our ministry possible. Thank you for being part of what God is doing!

Caleb and Amy Cox

The Mission Team asks for prayers as Caleb & Amy look forward to the birth of their second daughter on Nov. 10.



Caleb, Amy and Julia Cox



Some of the guys at Monday night Cru

PAST -

Praise God for continued open doors for freshman football chapels and for all of the guys coming to hear about Jesus!

PRESENT -

Praise God for growing our team of ministry partners! Please pray that God would continue meeting all of our needs.

FUTURE -

Cru graciously gives us a couple months of leave to bond with the new baby. Pray for continued momentum in the ministry and for God to sustain it while we are out.

Caleb & Amy would love to hear from you!

Caleb.Cox@cru.org
(256) 258-9537
Amy.Palmer@cru.org
(260) 704-8753
4402 Cordova Lane
McKinney, TX 75070

The Mission & Outreach Team desires to continue to help support Caleb & Amy in 2026 and 2027. To help make this possible donate to Covenant's Faith Promise. Or donate to Caleb & Amy with a donation to Covenant (indicating Caleb & Amy Cox) or visit give.cru.org/0864190



Kate's Kart Has Moved to 7417 Coldwater Road!

This is a larger space which means more room for books. And more books mean more books gifted to children in hospitals. Want to help grow the supply of new books for hospitalized children? Purchase NEW books for children ages newborn - 18 and leave them at the Mission Collection Center for the Mission Team to deliver your donation for you. Kate's Kart believes that when a child is facing hospital walls, the gift of a brand-new book can bring comfort, choice, and a little bit of joy.