



The Messenger

January 17, 2021, Number 3

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Todd's Take

Today is Covenant Sunday, a beginning-of-the-year tradition we began in 2016. On Covenant Sunday we challenge every PACOC member to recommit themselves to their calling as

followers of Jesus.

Our theme this year is from Hebrews 12:2 - *Fix Your Eyes on Jesus*. Our previous themes have been "Choose you this day whom you will serve," "No other gods," "Follow me daily," "Encourage one another," and "Go and make disciples."

This year's theme is especially relevant as we face so many distractions in our world—from politics, to health, to economics, to disunity, and to the individual anxieties that seem to be ever before us. The race gets wearisome, but we can find joy and exhilaration even in the worst of times when

we focus on Jesus. He is our example, our inspiration, our hope, and our joy.

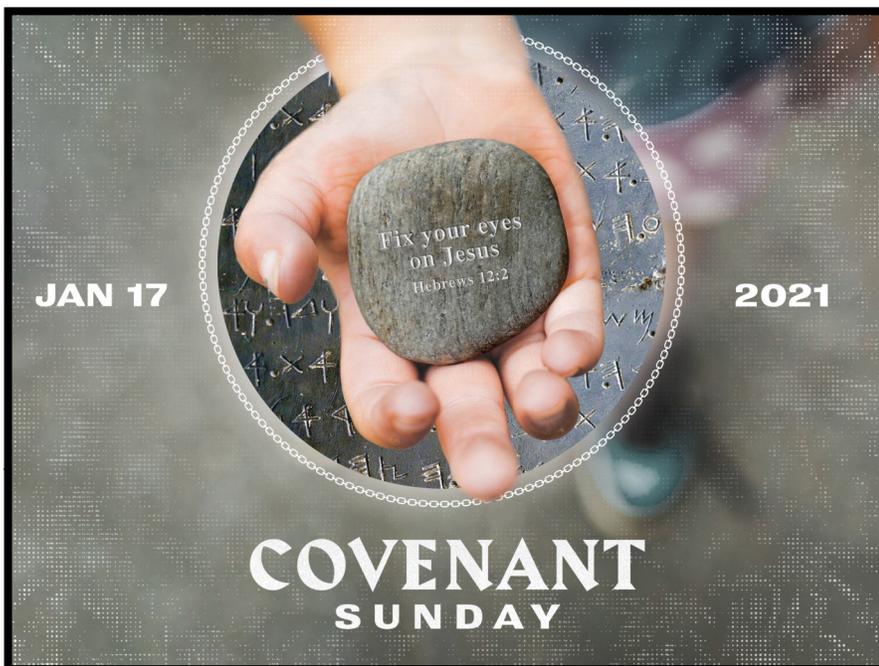
In addition to these yearly themes, on Covenant Sunday we also call all of our members to recommit to the following six core beliefs and practices:

1. Submitting to the authority of Scripture in everything.
2. Pursuing personal spiritual growth.
3. Serving our church family and community.
4. Being faithful stewards of our resources.
5. Sharing my faith.
6. Setting my eyes on the return of Christ and our eternal home in heaven.

Discipleship is so much more than adhering to a list of propositions and doctrines, but we must be reminded that these core beliefs and practices are so critical in keeping us centered and effective in our service to the Lord.

It is our hope and prayer that God will increasingly use each one of us as his hands and his feet in our world and that this church will be a beacon of hope to the world around us. As Jesus reminded us, the fields are ready to be harvested. We join Jesus in the prayer that more and more workers will join in this kingdom work.

May God bless each of you and all of us as his church to bring the focus of our lives and the focus of this world away from fear, anxiety, and despair and to the hope, joy, and peace that comes from our Creator and Savior.



NEWS & NOTES

Thank You

Thank you so much for your cards, prayers, and thoughts for Corky and me. We hope this is going to be a good year. We have enjoyed watching the service online. Love you all.
Corky & Linda Armstrong

2021 Budget

The 2021 budget has been set. There is a slight increase from last year, so we encourage you to continue your generous giving. Paper copies can be requested from the church office. The budget is also available to view in the Members' Area of the website.

Bridal Shower

Join us for a bridal shower in the atrium in honor of **Alissa Windle** and **Tyler Cope** on Sunday, January 31 from 1:30-3:00PM. **We are requesting that everyone wear a mask.** They are registered at Target, Amazon, and Bed Bath & Beyond.

Celebration of Marriage

On Sunday, February 14 during worship we will honor those couples who celebrate a wedding anniversary ending in years with a "1" or "6". If you would like to participate please submit a wedding picture and a more recent picture to the church office by February 1.

Youth Ministry

- **Sunday January 17:** Park Avenue Youth will meet from 5:30-7:30PM in the gym. Dinner is provided.
- **Sunday, January 24:** Winterfest One Day from 2:30-7:30PM! Look for an email from Tyler for more details.

Prayer List

Kimberly Pendergrass, Peggy Clark, Keith House, Corky Armstrong, Jimmy Rosser, John Eubank, Betty Clark, James Hawk, Dewey Martin, Bob Corley, Sandra Aynes, June Washburn, Nancy Richard, Sarah Carroll

Ongoing Needs

Jim & Jane Scroggins, Terry Waggoner, Kay Skelton, Lisa Cobble, Bobby & Peggy Slaughter, Nancy Richard, Sandra Thomas, Larry Long, Judy Shelton, Mary Pope, Gene Stogner, Kimberly Pendergrass, Kaile Williams (Norris), Peggy Parkey

Homebound

Barbara Corbett, Ray & Marsha Jones, Chris Keene, JD Huffman

Missions

Hammer & Dela Afakule (Togo), Mario "Pepe" Torre (Monterrey, Mexico)

Friends of Park Avenue

Rebekah Taylor (great niece of the Russells), Becky Sanchez (wife of Gil Sanchez, Director of orphanage in Mexico)

SAVE THE DATE!
CTW 2021
JULY 19-25

Open to students who completed Kindergarten through those who graduated in 2020

CTW PROMISED LAND

REGISTRATION OPEN!

MARRIAGE
Getaway
 WEEKEND

FEBRUARY 26-28

Lake Murray State Lodge
 Ardmore, OK

Cost: \$200/couple

REGISTER AT PACOC.NET/MARRIAGE

CASA DE LA ESPERANZA
FAMILY MISSION TRIP
JULY 2-10
\$150 / PERSON

Priority registration for Park Avenue members open now through March. Registration for all begins in April.

REGISTER AT PACOC.NET/CASA

For The Record - January 10, 2021	
Worship	346
Giving Goal	\$18,974
Received	\$22,885
<p>You can give online at pacoc.net/give Thanks for your ongoing financial support</p>	