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## Covenant Children

Throughout the Scriptures, we are shown that God graciously includes the children of believers in the promises of the covenant community. Therefore, the church must take special care that, by God's grace, our children will personally take hold of the gospel and receive in faith what is so graciously offered to them.

## The Process

This pamphlet is designed to show you the general process which we believe best conforms with Scripture and therefore will best prepare our children to confirm their faith and live it out in their adult lives.

We understand that many of our members come from different backgrounds and practices in relation to baptism, communion, and confirmation. Our encouragement is that parents would take time to learn and pray about the process as outlined here. If questions remain please feel free to make an appointment to speak with a member of our pastoral staff.

If your child is coming to our church in the middle of this process there is no need to worry. We will work with you and your child to ensure that they are receiving the covenant blessings which they have been promised.

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## Ministry Contacts

To schedule a baptism or communion interview, please email or call the church:

**Pastoral Assistant**

Janet Freshour: [janet@rivermont.org](mailto:janet@rivermont.org)  
434-846-3441

If you have any other questions about the life stages of our covenant children you can e-mail or call one of the following people:

**Children's Ministry Director**

Liza Shields: [liza@rivermont.org](mailto:liza@rivermont.org)

**Director of Student Ministries**

Davis Hester: [davis@rivermont.org](mailto:davis@rivermont.org)

**Women's Ministry Director**

Katherine Colquitt: [katherine@rivermont.org](mailto:katherine@rivermont.org)

**Pastor of Christian Education**

Shane Whelan: [shane@rivermont.org](mailto:shane@rivermont.org)

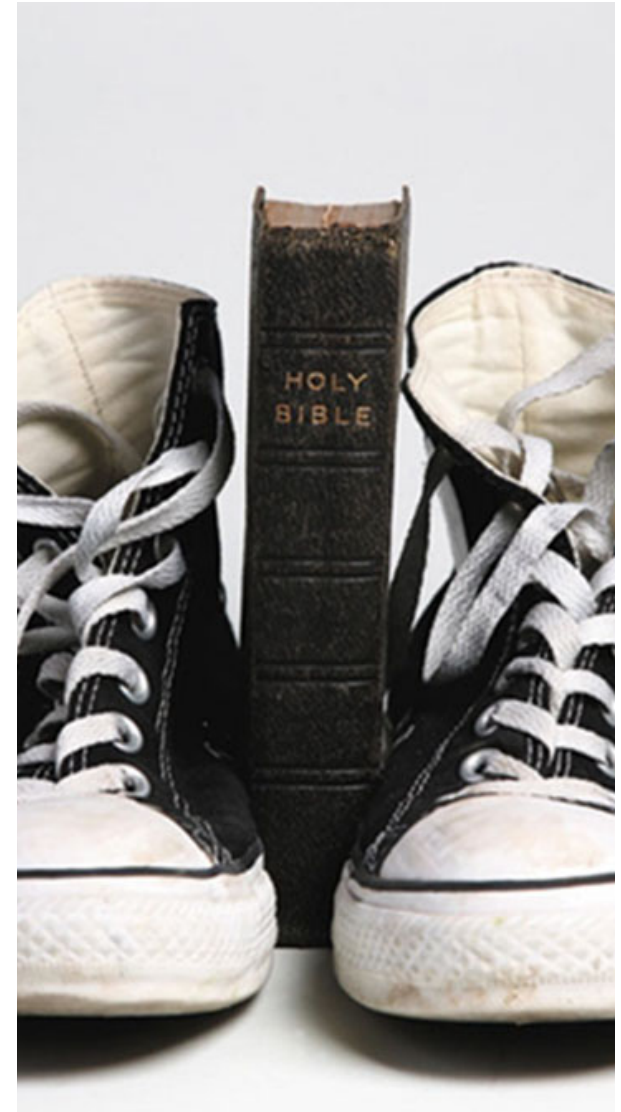
**Senior Pastor**

David Weber: [david@rivermont.org](mailto:david@rivermont.org)



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# The **Life** of a Covenant Child at **REPC**



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# Baptism to Worship

Infant to First Grade



The life of a covenant child at REPC begins with the sacrament of baptism. Baptism is encouraged and freely offered to all children of REPC members in good standing and is administered during Sunday morning worship throughout the year.

From the time of baptism until a covenant child graduates from the first grade the focus of ministry is preparation to engage in Sunday morning worship.

Each May families with a Pre-Kindergarten child will be given a children's catechism book to begin teaching biblical truth. Also in May, a processional ceremony will be held to welcome all of our new second graders as full participants into the Sunday morning worship service.

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# Worship to Confirmation

Second to Ninth Grade



The next stage of a covenant child's life at REPC is focused on the development of personal discipleship and faith. During this stage a covenant child will begin taking communion following an interview with the pastors.

Communion interviews are available throughout the year and may be scheduled with the church office when a parent believes their child is ready to participate in communion by faith. Also, fifth and sixth grade students will go through a class on baptism and communion.

This stage culminates during the ninth grade year when students go through confirmation class. A confirmation ceremony will be held in March of each year in which our covenant children will take their adult membership vows, publicly confirming their personal faith.

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# Confirmation to Graduation

Tenth to Twelfth Grade



The final stage of a covenant child's life at REPC is focused on preparing our children to live on mission in the world. During this stage our covenant children will be encouraged and trained in personal evangelism, service, and apologetics.

Our hope is to guide our children to become adults who not only know their faith but are equipped to live their faith out on the college campus, in their careers, and in their homes.

A graduation ceremony will be held in May each year to mark the graduation of our covenant children to encourage them as they prepare to engage the world and advance the Kingdom of God.. They will also present our new second graders with a Bible to signify a passing on of the faith to the next generation.