



*Covenant is an accepting, welcoming community
sharing the glory of God's love with all.*

From our pastor

"Teacher, what is the greatest commandment in the Law?" He replied, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: You must love your neighbor as you love yourself. All the Law and the Prophets depend on these two commands." Matthew 22:36-40

Sometimes it is difficult to understand what it means to love God. How do we love a being that we cannot see? As if anticipating our concern, Jesus says that loving your neighbor as you love yourself is like loving God with all that we are. If we want to know what it means to love God, then the place to start is by loving our neighbors and loving ourselves. All three are inextricably intertwined: love of God, love of neighbor, and love of self. This past week, my family was blessed to go to Captiva, Florida with my in-laws. Like many of you, we have had several vacations canceled the last couple of years. Though we have found other ways to celebrate and rest, this past week was truly restorative for me. Being in nature with the people I love most, reading for pleasure, taking naps, not being constantly worried about getting sick—all of this was a gift. Sometimes caring for ourselves can feel selfish, but it isn't. The only way we have love to give to others is to make sure we are loving ourselves, because we can't give what we don't have. I hope this summer, you are able to find ways to love yourself, and to do so as an expression of your love for God. You are a gift. Life is a gift. Taking time to appreciate the gift that is you, to love and nurture yourself, all of this honors God.





COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN
Summer Prayer Service

SUNDAYS
IN
JUNE
JULY
AUGUST

*Join us for a 30
minute outdoor
service.*

SUNDAYS @ 9 AM IN THE COURTYARD

**COVENANT'S SUNDAY 10:00 a.m. INDOOR, IN-PERSON
WORSHIP SERVICE**

Sunday Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.



**COVENANT'S SUNDAY 10:00 a.m.
VIRTUAL WORSHIP SERVICE**

FACEBOOK for Sunday, 10:00 a.m.
services: <https://www.facebook.com/covenantpcusa/>
Look for the most current video, labeled "PREMIERE: Current Date".

YOUTUBE for Sunday, 10:00 a.m. services: <https://www.youtube.com/user/covenantpcusa>
Look for the most current video, labeled "PREMIERE: Current Date"

For past services, special music, and other church video content, visit our main YouTube page: [Covenant Service Archive](#).

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FOR ALL AGES!

Adult Forum Class - Adult Christian education prior to the worship service is not scheduled for the summer months. Regular adult education for the nine o'clock hour will resume in the fall. David Connolly will lead a Sunday brunch series during the summer, "Becoming the People of the Book: A Hands-On History of the

Bible", following indoor worship with dates TBA.

Children Christian Education - Enjoy summer break!

STEWARDSHIP & BUDGET COMMISSION

Reminder to please return your annual stewardship pledge cards to the financial administrator, Tanvi Bhowmik. Thank you!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS is starting next week (Monday, June 20 - Thursday, June 23 from 9am to 11:30am) and we could use your help! We are collecting cardboard to create castles: boxes, empty paper towel & TP rolls...anything we can get creative with. You can leave your donations in Fellowship Hall anytime this week or bring it to church with you Sunday! Please pray for our children, families & volunteers that we would all be energized, patient and open to learning and loving each other well this week. We are so excited to welcome kiddos into our church for VBS again! Come checkout our decorations THIS SUNDAY as the sanctuary will be transformed into a snowy castle!

GET TO KNOW YOUR PASTOR

Due to COVID, Covenant did not have the opportunity for a live meet and greet gathering with Pastor Joel. Invitations are being sent to members of the congregation who have not had an opportunity to have a conversation with Joel. Invitations are being sent out to select groups of 15. The RSVP invitations are intended to keep the groups small, allowing more time for conversation. The dates and times will vary for each group. The frequency of these dates, and if they continue, will depend on the responses received. If you would like to take part in this opportunity, please let us know by sending an email to covenant@covenantpcusa.org or by calling 614-451-6677, X11.

THANK YOU NOTE

Dear Covenant friends,

Thank you for all your gifts, cards, sweet messages and hugs! I will forever treasure your friendships. Thank you for making my retirement party such a special and memorable event. Many thanks to all the Commissions for their thoughtful, fun and generous gifts.

Over the years, I have enjoyed getting to know and working with many of you. It makes my heart sad to leave my job at Covenant. I couldn't have asked for a better working environment. However, I am also ready to begin a new chapter in my life by spending more time with family, traveling and just taking it easy. That's all I have planned for now, which I'm truly looking forward to.

Warmest regards and blessings to all of you.
Ingrid Smith

MEALS FOR MEMBERS IN NEED

Would you be willing to provide a meal or two for Covenant members whose health problems keep them temporarily from cooking? The Deacons have recently re-activated this program and are looking for cooks to volunteer their services. Contact Steve St. Martin or John Harder if you are willing.

THE PRESBYTERY OF SCIOTO VALLEY UPCOMING EVENTS/PROGRAMS

Three Opportunities for You! The Presbytery of Scioto Valley would like to make you aware of the following upcoming events/programs:

Called to be Easter People - A Matthew 25 Challenge

All churches in our presbytery are being encouraged to join our "We Are Easter People Challenge". The goal of the challenge is for Scioto Valley congregations to jointly log 2022 hours of Matthew 25-related mission service during the seven week-period between Easter and Pentecost. Our efforts, and those of our fellow Scioto Valley Presbyterians, will be recorded and celebrated throughout the challenge. The only requirement is that the hours of service be undertaken by a congregation and directed to our brothers and sisters Christ called "the least of these:" those who hunger, those who thirst, those who are sick, those who are strangers, those who are imprisoned, those who are naked. Your congregation is encouraged to send weekly updates to the presbytery office at dagmar@psvonline.org. Please include your church name, the project, how many hours, a contact person, and email. Thank you.

Plans are underway for our **Presbytery Youth Retreat at Camp Akita** this fall on November 12-13. Be sure to mark your calendars and save the date!

This year our Presbytery will offer two mission locations in West Virginia for **Presbytery mission work teams the week of October 23-29**. We will be working with the West Virginia Mission Advocacy Workcamps (WVMAW) at locations in Colcord, West Virginia and Hampden, West Virginia. Applications will be available soon. Contact Jeannie Harsh at jeannie@psvonline.org if you are interested in putting your name on the mission work team list.



Presbyterian Disaster Assistance - Ukraine

We are grateful for the outpouring of prayers and calls from congregations and individuals asking how they can help. As the violence continues, the number of people being displaced internally and fleeing to neighboring countries increases by the day. And in the midst of the chaos, there are sibling

churches and ecumenical partners who are already providing assistance with basic items for survival. Our first priority as PDA is to provide funding to these partners on the ground. While the scale of this crisis is new, receiving refugees from Ukraine and other countries in Central and Eastern Europe is not, which means we have trusted, established partners with the knowledge and expertise to carry out this important work.

We are hearing that the reformed churches in Ukraine and the region are also feeling called to join in the humanitarian response. PDA, therefore, anticipates that our response will include both financial and technical assistance as the network of faith communities providing humanitarian assistance grows in the months ahead.

As we pray for an end to this violence, we ask the U.S. Government and our European allies to make a commitment to the Ukrainian people for a peaceful solution. We don't know how long it will take, but we know that they will need help with the rebuilding of their country so that those who are fleeing now may one day return home safely.

To support our response, designate gifts to DR000156 or text PDAUKR to 41444



SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Now that we are worshipping in person again, you may once more sign up for flowers to be placed in the sanctuary for Sunday worship to honor loved ones, a special occasion, or just to the glory of God. The dedication information will be listed in the Sunday bulletin. The arrangements will cost \$40.

To order flowers, please contact the church office by sending an email to lauriejohnson@covenantpcusa.org by Tuesday of each week that you wish to have flowers in the sanctuary. Let the office know which date you are requesting, your name, contact information and any dedication information. You may request future dates as well. Payment can be in cash or check.



Freedom a la Cart provides a \$15 toiletries bag to women who are being released from jail. Covenant members have been generous with support for these bags pre-pandemic. We realize the need is still there and are asking for donations to continue this effort. If you wish to contribute, please make checks payable to Covenant and indicate "human trafficking toiletry bags" on the memo line.

CENTERING PRAYER

Covenant has reconvened a Centering Prayer practice on Thursdays at 8:30am in the Lounge. The first 15 minutes will be an informal gathering with the practice beginning at 8:45 for 20 minutes. Centering prayer is a method of meditation that places a strong emphasis on interior silence. We allow ourselves to be totally open to God, learning how to gently release attention away from our inner thoughts. For more information, please send an email to covenant@covenantpcusa.org and in the subject line type Centering Prayer or contact Pastor Joel.



COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Covenant Presbyterian Women's Circles meet for fellowship and discussion of the Horizons Bible Study, "What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus.

- 1st Monday at 7:00 pm, Elizabeth Circle, Mona Connolly, moderator
- 1st Wednesday at 9:30 am, Eunice-Lydia Circle, Susan Imel, moderator
- 3rd Monday, at 9:30 am, Deborah Circle, Lynn Elliott, moderator

Other circles:

- Every Thursday at 1:00 p.m. Mission Sewing, Diana Sanders
- June 10th and Jun 24th at 9:30 a.m. in the Lounge, Prayer Shawl Circle(2^d and 4th Fridays,) Louise Davidson and Nancy Davidson

For more information about CPW circles and activities, contact Sandy St. Martin, CPW moderator, covenant@covenantpcusa.org with CPW/Sandy St. Martin, the Circle leader's name or name of the person you wish to contact in the subject line.

WOMEN'S THEOLOGY

Members of *Women's Theology* will conclude discussion of Amy Jill Levine's *The Difficult Words of Jesus* on June 3rd with Chapter 6. On June 17th consideration of *Everyday Contemplative: The Way of Prayerful Living* will begin. New participants are always welcome. Meetings are on Zoom, so check with Susan Imel or Louise Davidson for information and to join the discussion the first and third Friday each month from 9:30 to 11 am.

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT & ADULT LEARNING COMMISSION

Wednesday Bible Study 1-2 pm: Wednesday Bible Study - This Wednesday, June 15 we will begin our study of the book of Judges. (You can find an overview of Judges at bibleproject.com.) This gathering will be in person, in the Lounge. We will continue offering zoom for those who cannot meet in-person Please join us. No preparation is required. Ask for a zoom link from lauriejohnson@covenantpcusa.org.

Wednesday Evening Book Study 7:00-8:00 p.m. - The CPC Book Group will meet on Wednesday evening, June 15, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom, to continue our discussion of Rob Bell's book, Everything is Spiritual. Pastor Joel is leading this discussion, as it is one of his favorite books. Please contact the church or Tori Vazquez for the link.

Opportunity to Serve by Providing Lunch through the OPEN SHELTER

Do you want to do hands-on mission once a month or occasionally? We would love to welcome new people to the Open Shelter Lunch Making Team!

We thank those who joined the team on Friday, June 10th; how wonderful it was to have enough people to get the job done smoothly! So blessed to have such a great team doing God's work together!

Many thanks as well to the Properties Commission for installing the shelving to help us manage the donations of to go containers and to Lynn Elliott for her donations of egg boxes which really help us transport the lunches!

We'd love to expand the team of people involved to create the lunches for **Friday, July 8th** and in any future month. **We need extra help with drivers and with purchasing items for the July 8th delivery.**

Covenant helps out people in need (including the homeless) served by the Open Shelter by providing 175 sack lunches on the **second Friday of every month**. We are revising the menu and process, and we need more volunteers to help out! Here are ways to join in:

- Anytime, you could **drop off your clean, lidded take-out containers** (reusable disposable food containers) to shelving on the counter under the windows of Covenant's kitchen. We take them to the Open Shelter to help people take home leftovers from donated restaurant meals. When these meals are donated, people are encouraged to take sack lunches with them to-go as well.
- You could help with supplies for the sack lunches; we would let you know the quantity, and you'd deliver them to Covenant's kitchen by the Thursday before the delivery day (church closes at 4pm) or by the second Friday of the month at 8:15, when we assemble the sack lunches. The costs for these supplies may be reimbursed by submitting your receipts to our Financial Administrator. Ways to help include:
 - You could **shop** for supplies (like paper bags and napkins from GFS, drinks, plastic bags, sandwich makings, bananas...)
 - You could **make 45 or 90 bags of unsalted nuts** at your home.
 - You could **make 45 or 90 bags of baby carrots** at your home.
 - You could **make 30 Peanut Butter and Jelly sandwiches** at your home.
- You could **help make 160 ham and cheese sandwiches with the team at Covenant's kitchen, and then assemble** the lunches into paper bags and pack them in boxes and into a car (or two) between 8:15 and 9:10 am on the second Friday of the month.
- You could **transport** the lunches and other supplies from Covenant to the Open Shelter on Parsons Ave. by 9:30 on the second Friday of the month. This takes either two drivers or one driver with a

minivan.

By splitting up the work, we can get more people involved sharing the Love of Christ in our community. Join us!

Questions? We would love to answer them! Would you like to join us in one or more of these ways? Fantastic! Please contact us to discuss this and/or sign up.

In Christ,

Carrie Mellen, 614-519-9731, carriemellen@icloud.com

Betsy Sebastian, 219-208-5602, grammyseb@gmail.com

Mona Connolly, 614-886-4413, or mrc2208@sbcglobal.net

**Join the
Team
Creating**

175

**Sack
Lunches
for the**

**OPEN
SHELTER
on
Parsons
Ave.**

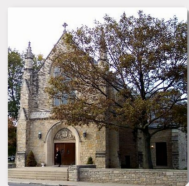
**on the 2nd
Friday of**

EVERY

**month from
8:15 to 9:10**



**Contact: Betsy Sebastian
Mona Connolly
Carrie Mellen**



HM3 UPDATE – HOGE'S, MUSIC, MESSAGE, MEAL

*Cathy Levy needs CHEFS
To join her ad-hoc team to serve
Saturday, June 18, 4pm to 7pm.
Contact Cathy to help her help others!*

Hoge Presbyterian Church offers the HM3 program every Saturday for its community in Franklinton including Music, Message, and a Meal. Area churches assist with the Meal, and Covenant creates and serves a hot, home-made meal every 3rd Saturday. At this point in the pandemic, the wearing of masks is optional for both

servers and guests.

Current attendance at HM3 leads us to bring enough for 50 meals.

- Usually, Covenant members cook in their own homes and then bring the food to Hoge to serve from the Hoge Kitchen. Alternatively, you can prepare the food as a group in the Covenant kitchen and carry it to Hoge. For example, in April, the SOS Food Pantry team prepared part of the meal in the Covenant Kitchen as a team activity and then brought the food to Hoge.
- Groups have signed up to serve in the months throughout the year of 2022... **THANK YOU! Group leaders:** If your group is lacking servers or chefs, let Cathy know; she has contacts for volunteers who can join your team. **Chefs:** Your expenses incurred in cooking may be reimbursed through our Financial Administrator.
- Cathy Levy will gather an **ad-hoc group** to serve on **June 18**; please let her know if you'd like to join as a chef or a server for June.
- **If you or your kids would like to help out** as a chef (usually, in your own home) and/or server (from 4-7pm) during one of those 3rd Saturdays where a group already is signed up, **go ahead and contact that groups' leader**; we'll bet they would LOVE to include you on the team! You can find the leader's name on the website, or you can ask Cathy Levy, and she'll connect you up.

Learn more through this tool: <https://bitly.com/CovenantHM3SignUp> or by contacting Cathy Levy (send an email to covenant@covenantpcusa.org and in the subject line type HM3/Levy). By splitting up the work, it's easy, and many of us can help our neighbors with life-giving food offered with open hearts.

PRAYER CHAIN



Contact Laurie Johnson (lauriejohnson@covenantpcusa.org) if you would like to join the members and friends of Covenant who pray for those requesting our prayers. The prayers will be relayed to you via email from Linda Van Aman. It is asked that you include the prayer request in your daily prayers for a week. To submit a prayer chain request, please send an email to covenant@covenantpcusa.org and in the subject line type Prayer Chain. Note that the person for whom prayers are requested must give permission.



WEBSITE REQUEST FORM

Does your Commission need something placed on the website? Does a form need updated, or an announcement need to be made? Click below and submit a website request as soon as possible to have information added or changed on the Covenant website.

[WEBSITE REQUEST FORM](#)

CHURCH FACILITIES POLICY

Indoor policy due to Franklin County COVID-19

Covenant's Mask Policy will conform with [CDC guidelines](#). Wearing a mask inside our facility is optional for everyone. Session will continue to monitor COVID 19 in the state of Ohio and adapt our policy as needed.

INFORMATION/MISCELLANEOUS

- **Registration/Sign-up for Glass Showcase** - There is a sign-up sheet in the administrative office area to reserve the glass showcase.

[Click here to check out all Covenant events and news on our website.](#)

• others.

Stay in touch!

[Click here to receive our weekly emails.](#)

