



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

From our pastor

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." Matthew 5:9

This Sunday, Covenant is blessed to be visited by The Rev. Fursan Ayed Zu'mot, a PCUSA International Peacemaker. Rev. Zu'mot will be preaching in worship at 10am, and he will be leading the Adult Forum at 9am in the Lounge. He will also be visiting other churches in our Presbytery this month as part of the Presbyterian Peacemaker Program.

What is the Presbyterian Peacemaker Program?

Leaders from partner denominations and organizations around the world visit the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) each year to interpret issues of peace and justice. These visits inform Presbyterians, open hearts and minds, touch lives, establish relationships and inspire new ministries. By sharing stories of their work and witness, the peacemakers help us understand peace and justice concerns around the world and provide insights that can inspire us to greater faithfulness. Their visits broaden our sense of God's inclusive family and help equip us to build a culture of peace and nonviolence for all God's children. Since 1984 more than 350 International Peacemakers from 60 countries have been hosted through the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program. The International Peacemakers Program is made possible by your generous gifts to the Peace and Global Witness Offering.

Who is The Rev. Fursan Zu'mot?

The Rev. Fursan Ayed Zu'mot serves as pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in Jerusalem. He grew up in the Anglican church in Amman, Jordan. His studies were initially in accounting but, following a short career in banking, he sensed a call to ministry in 2003. That same year he began working with the deaf community. He studied theology at United Theological College of the West Indies in Jamaica and, in 2009, completed his degree and received a diploma in ministerial studies and counseling. After becoming ordained in the Anglican Church and serving several parishes in Jordan, a struggle with doctrinal and ritual questions led him to apply to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL), the Presbyterian Church (USA)'s partner denomination in the region. He has served the ELCJHL since 2014. In addition to serving as pastor of the Church of the Redeemer, Fursan uses his training and experience in communication with the hearing-disabled as ELCJHL as pastor for the deaf and serves the Church's Ecclesiastical Court of Appeals in the capacity of judge. He is married to Rawan Zu'mot, a pharmacist, and they have a 2½-year-old daughter. As an International Peacemaker, Fursan looks forward to sharing the situation and challenges for the Christian Church in the Holy Land and the diminishing presence of Christians in the region. He will describe the ELCJHL's efforts to support Christians spiritually and economically and to advocate for a just and lasting peace for all people in Israel and Palestine.

I hope you'll be part of this incredible opportunity to hear from Rev. Zu'mot and help us build a culture of peace here at Covenant.

One Struggle to Love,

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](#).

LAST WEEK'S SERVICE (SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11)

Youtube: <https://youtu.be/Bto9Gil3nyM>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1950449968678293/>

Faithlife: <https://faithlife.com/cpc-vj/livestream>

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FOR ALL AGES!

Adult Forum Class - Adult Christian education prior to the Sunday worship service at 9am in the Lounge.

Children Christian Education - Sunday at 9am in room 115.



INTERNATIONAL PEACEMAKER – September 18

Please plan to join the adult education program at 9 and the worship service at 10 on Sunday, 9/18, to hear Rev. Fursan Zu'mot, a PC(USA) International Peacemaker. He serves as pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in Jerusalem. He will share the situation and challenges for the Christian Church in the Holy Land and the diminishing presence of Christians in the region. To learn more, Rev. Zu'mot has suggested reading *Blood Brothers: The Dramatic Story of a Palestinian Christian Working for Peace in Israel* by Elias Chacour and *Yet in the Dark Streets Shining: A Palestinian Story of Hope & Resilience in Bethlehem* by Bishara Awad & Mercy Aiken.

PRESBYTERY EVENT

Sunday, September 18, 2-4pm: Presbytery Youth Event - All youth grades 6-12 are invited to come be a kid again! Join with other youth from our presbytery to eat, play, hangout and worship together. Come help us welcome area youth to our church as we host this fun event! See Erin for more details.

Men's Study Breakfast Resumes Saturday, October 1

The men's study breakfast will take place in the lounge at the church, 8:00 AM, Saturday, October 1. We will continue our study and discussion on the life of Paul, using the video "Eclipsing Empire," by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan. The video was shot "on location" in the areas where Paul ministered.

Ordinarily, the breakfast menu includes pancakes and scrambled eggs. Participants are asked to bring an item to share.

All are welcome.

Presbytery of Scioto Valley Commission for Nurture and Outreach (CNO) Events/ Updates

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

The Presbytery Youth Task Force is pleased to offer a **Fall Youth Retreat at Camp Akita November 12-13, 2022**. The cost is \$80 per participant (If you register your group by October 17th), \$100 per participant (If you register between October 18th and 31st), with the theme "Attitude of Gratitude". The flyer and registration are

at psvonline.org under Events. Contact the presbytery office for more information 614-847-0565 or dagmar@psvonline.org.

The Commission for Nurture and Outreach (CNO) has cancelled this year's fall mission work trips in West Virginia. However, CNO leaders are looking into offering **Mission Workdays throughout our presbytery in 2023**. We feel that this could connect churches with various social programs in our region, while connecting members in different congregations to one another. Contact Kathi Bubb, chair of CNO, kathibubb@gmail.com if you have ideas for mission workdays, and you'd be interested in helping to plan these events.

Prison Ministry is an important part of the Matthew 25 Initiative to Dismantle Structural Racism and Eradicate Systemic Poverty. Our presbytery is offering two zoom conversations, **October 15 from 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. we will examine "Incarceration in Ohio"**, and on **November 5, 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m., we will explore "I was in prison, and you visited me"**, with a panel Discussion on Prison Ministry in Scioto Valley Presbytery, register on the calendar on the psvonline.org website.



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 but must be received prior to the specific date of worship service.



COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The Covenant Presbyterian Women will host a Fall Luncheon on Wednesday, September 21st at 11:30 am. Our program speaker is Shirley Cannon, president of the Lunch Bunch and the Helen Jenkins Davis Scholarship Fund.

All are welcome, and reservations can be made through hallway signups, by calling the church office, or by notifying your circle leader. There is no charge for the luncheon.

Covenant Presbyterian Women's Circles meet for fellowship and discussion of the Horizons Bible Study "Celebrating Sabbath, Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight"

- 1st Monday at 7:00 pm, Elizabeth Circle, Mona Connolly, moderator via Zoom
- 1st Wednesday at 9:30 am in the Church Lounge, Eunice-Lydia Circle, Susan Imel, moderator
- 3rd Monday, at 9:30 am in the church lounge, Deborah Circle, Lynn Elliott, moderator

Other circles:

- Every Thursday at 1:00 p.m. Mission Sewing, Diana Sanders
- 2nd and 4th Fridays at 9:30 a.m. in the Church Lounge, Prayer Shawl Circle, 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 meet September 16, to continue discussion of Brian McLaren's book, *Do I Stay Christian?* Reading for the 16th includes Chapters 2-4. 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 11am.

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT & ADULT LEARNING COMMISSION

Wednesday Bible Study 1:00-2:00 pm: September 14, we will practice Lectio Divina, a spirit-guided prayer and response to scripture. Please join us. No preparation is required. We read and share together. This gathering will be in person, in the Lounge. We will continue offering zoom for those who cannot meet in-person. Ask for a zoom link from lauriejohnson@covenantpcusa.org.

Wednesday Evening Book Study 7:00-8:00 p.m. - The CPC Book Group will resume on Wednesday, September 7th at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. We will discuss *What the Eyes Don't See: A Story of Crisis, Resistance, and Hope in an American City* by Mona Hanna-Attisha, MD. The author is a pediatrician in Flint, MI, who, together with her team, proved that the children of Flint were being exposed to lead through the city tap water and then shared that truth with the world. The Columbus Metropolitan Library currently has 14+ copies available, and *clicking on the author's name above* will take you to a summary and a variety of purchasing options.

We will discuss the first eight chapters on September 7. Pastor Joel will help us get started with a brief talk about "Water and Christianity." Many universities have this book on their list for first year readings, and a discussion guide may be found [here](#), if that would be of interest. As always, attendees are invited to suggest book titles to the group.

Please contact Tori Vazquez or the church for the Zoom link.



CATCH COURT and Freedom a la Cart

For many years, Covenant members have made efforts to support programs for women who were trafficked and who are trying to recover their lives especially through CATCH Court's program. Each month, we take lunch for 55 people to CATCH Court on the first Thursday of the month. After serving lunch we have the option to stay to observe court in action. This is always inspiring because there is so much love, courage and determination expressed and you are invited to be part of this!

We have also provided resources such as toiletry bags and clothing for Freedom a la Cart which provides training for women in catering, food preparation and restaurant operations. Helping women regain drivers' licensing and providing activities for CATCH Court graduates, Butterflies, are among the many services we can help support. In December we will host the annual Christmas party for the CATCH women.

We recently watched the graduation ceremony for 12 women who were graduating from CATCH. The State House Atrium was filled with celebrants! Each woman was introduced, and each had the opportunity to say a few words. Judges, court workers, volunteers, friends and family cheered each one. It was a special day! With questions and to become involved, contact Barbara Marshall.

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!

What a wonderful group of workers-for-Christ who gathered in the Covenant kitchen to prepare 175 sack lunches for the Open Shelter on Friday, September 9th! Thanks to all who shopped, prepped and/or delivered the food and supplies to our neighbors on Parsons Avenue!

We'd love to expand the team of people involved to create the lunches for Friday, October 14th and in any future month.

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 revised 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, Tanvi Bhowmik. 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 at covenant@covenantpcusa.org.

In Christ,
Betsy Sebastian, Mona Connolly, and Carrie Mellen

**Join the Team
Creating or
Delivering**

**175
Sack Lunches
for the**

**OPEN SHELTER
on Parson's Ave.**

**on the
2nd Friday of
EVERY month
from
8:15 to 9:10am**

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

**Also, help them
by promoting
what they do
on Social Media!**





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

*THANK YOU, chefs and servers (so many!) led by Betsy Sebastian
from the Eunice-Lydia Circle who provided the plentiful meal
(including Johnny Marzetti Casserole!) on 8/20*

*The next meal will be served by the
Mission and Social Concerns Commission on Saturday, September 17.*

If you'd like to help as a server from 4-7pm, please contact Cathy Levy.

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.

- In the past, Covenant members cooked in their own homes and then brought 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 and June, teams prepared most 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, Tanvi Bhowmik.
- **If you or your kids would like to help out** as a chef 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

Franklin County once again has a high level of community spread of COVID, which means the CDC recommends everyone wear a mask indoors in public. Late last week, Franklin County Public Health issued a community mask advisory.

INFORMATION/MISCELLANEOUS

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

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

Our Mission

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

Our Vision

- Covenant will offer worship services that invite diverse expressions of faith and enable all who come to draw closer to God.
- Covenant will become a home through which all can practice their faith and humanity in service of others.

Stay in touch!

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



Covenant Presbyterian Church | 2070 Ridgecliff Rd., Columbus, OH 43221

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