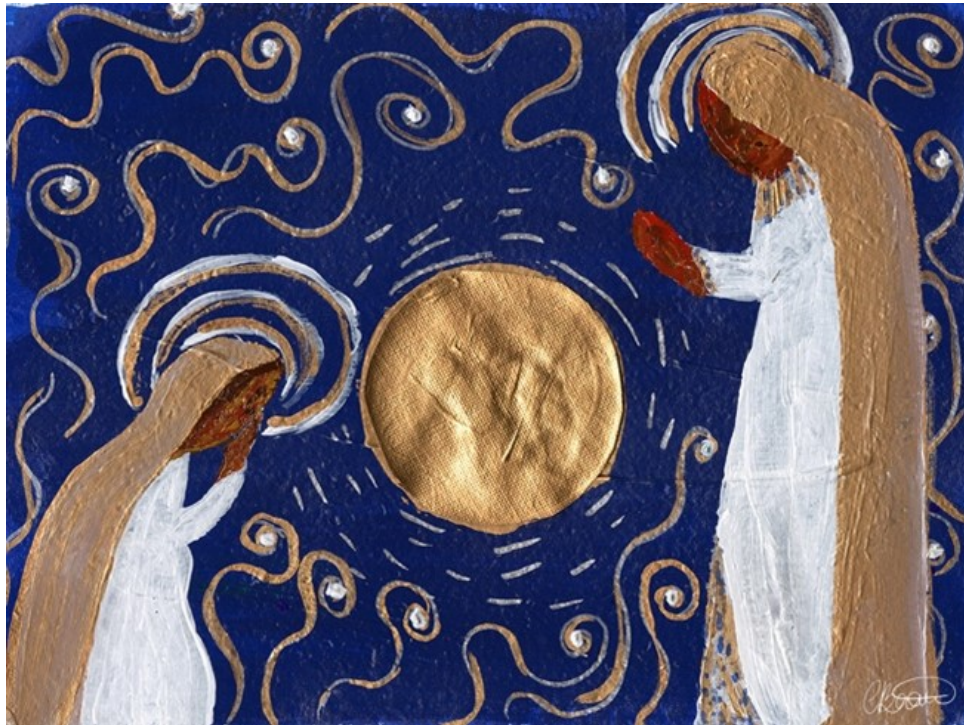


Weekly Newsletter of Covenant Presbyterian Church - December 7, 2022  
Laurie Johnson, Office Manager & Newsletter Editor



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

## From our pastor



Mary's Golden Annunciation  
by Carmelle Beaugelin  
Inspired by Luke 1:26-38

Acrylic, gilding paint, canvas collage on handmade reclaimed paper

God meets us in our fear, and Mary had good reason to be afraid. Here she was, engaged to be married, minding her own business, when out of nowhere an angel appears and says, "Rejoice, favored one! The Lord is with you!" Everybody in the Bible who meets an angel or has an encounter with God has the same response: fear. Humans seemingly have a universal fear of God. Why that is, I'm not entirely sure. Perhaps is as simple as we are afraid of what we do not know, and God is the great unknown. Mary is startled by this news, and the angel responds with one of the most repeated phrases in the Bible: "Don't be afraid." The angel then proceeds to tell her about how she will conceive a son, who she is to name Jesus.

It isn't clear Mary welcomes this news. She didn't ask for this, and when it comes to pregnancy and giving birth, consent is of the utmost importance. Even though she's told what an honor this unplanned pregnancy is, she doesn't say, "OK, whatever you want, God!" She doesn't immediately consent. First, she questions, "How

can this be?" Fear often has a way of silencing us, and somehow in the presence of this powerful, male angel, Mary manages to question what's she's been told before she agrees to participate. I'm so glad she did! Mary doesn't simply submit. She asks her question and gets an answer. She is assured she's not alone in this calling because her cousin Elizabeth is on the other end of this unlikely pregnancy path. Only then does Mary say, "I am the Lord's servant. Let it be with me just as you have said."

It's not being told, "Don't be afraid" that helps us in our fear. What helps is knowing that we are not alone. God meets us in our fear, and normally, the way God does that is through the people who walk through the dark night with us, refusing to leave us on our own. When we are afraid, we don't need to be cheered up or told how everything is going to be OK. Because the truth is, we don't know that it will. Often there's nothing to be done but wait, and God waits with us. God is not put off by our questions, our confusion, or our anger, but quietly sits with us, for as long as is needed. The truth is God is with and favors us, even when we don't feel or see it. Maybe the words, "Don't be afraid" aren't a command. Maybe they are an invitation to trust that in all things, we are loved, and we never walk alone. This Advent season, as you wait for God's promise to be born anew, know that you are not alone. God is with you, and so are we.

One Struggle to Love,  
Rev. Joel A. Esala

## 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, DECEMBER 4)

Youtube: <https://youtu.be/ToSB05a9v3E>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/482484247318324/>

Faithlife: <https://faithlife.com/cpc-vj/files?filter=kind%3A%22video%22>

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FOR ALL AGES!

**Adult Forum Class** - Adult Christian education prior to the Sunday worship service will be led by Peter Okyere at 9am-9:50am in the Lounge.

**Children Christian Education** - 3 years - 5th grade meet Sundays at 9am in room 115 for music, stories, crafts and conversation.

**Youth Group:** Youth grades 6-12 meet Sundays at 11am in room 115 for lunch, learning and a whole lot of fun.

## CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

Each year, Covenant has four special offerings. The fourth is the **Christmas Joy Offering** which will be received Sunday, December 11. This offering provides assistance to current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need and develops our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges. You can give using the envelope in your bulletin or through Covenant's website.

## 'MEDIEVAL MANUSCRIPTS OF PASTORAL CARE' Open House at Ohio State University Rare Books & Manuscripts Library (RBML) Saturday, December 10, 2022

An SDALC Excursion to OSU Campus **this Saturday**, Dec. 10!

This open house event at RBMS is free of charge, this Saturday, **10:30 a.m. to noon**. The Spiritual Development & Adult Learning Commission (SDALC) is organizing an informal excursion to attend. It promises to be fun and interesting with opportunities to see, hold and learn about medieval Christian manuscripts and their use and role in the spiritual life of people in the Middle Ages.

For more information, check out this link: [RBML Saturday Spotlight: Preaching, Confession and Medieval Pastoral Care Manuscripts | Libraries News and Information \(osu.edu\)](#)

If you are interested in joining us, here is the plan for Saturday:

9:45-10:00 a.m. - Meet at Covenant in the parking lot; we hope to work out carpools to make the drive over to OSU campus.

10:15 a.m. - Park at the Ohio Union Parking Garage (1739 N. High Street) - drivers and riders can hopefully split the parking charge.

10:30 a.m.-noon - At the RBML event (Note: the Rare Books library is housed in the Main Library on the oval, on the first floor.)

(While at the library, an optional, quick excursion up to the 13th floor is likely, which offers great panoramic views of the stadium, the OSU Oval, downtown Columbus etc.!)

12:15-1:30(?) p.m. - For those who are interested: We have reserved the private "community room" for lunch at the campus area Panera located at 300 West Lane Avenue.

If you have any questions, please contact David Connolly (614) 619-0570, e-mail [dec.phd@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dec.phd@sbcglobal.net)

**Adult Forum Class: December 18, 9 am**  
**Speaker - Molly Todd, Quilt Artist**

Molly is one of eight Upper Arlington Artists whose work is on exhibit in the church Lounge until Jan. 3rd. Learn how this Middle School Math and Art Teacher, Adjunct Professor in Mathematics at the University Level, and recognized by the Disney Company with an "American Teacher Award for Mathematics" became a Quilt Artist in her retirement. She will talk about how she translates children's original artworks into quilt legacies through her work with critically ill children and their families at Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Ohio. Molly has authored a book about her work, "Threads of Life", available from [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).

## MEN'S FELLOWSHIP IN DECEMBER

On **Saturday, Dec. 17**, we will convene (with spouses if they wish to join!) at Der Dutchman in Plain City for breakfast at 9 a.m. (Gather at church at 8 a.m. if you wish to car-pool out to the restaurant.)



**Deep Gratitude for your pledges!**  
**If you haven't pledged, please do so to help us meet the goal to...**

## RAISE THE HARVEST HOME LOAN RETIREMENT PLEDGE

Thank you, Covenant members! Thanks to many generous pledges, as of early December, we've reached 73% of our goal of \$270,000 for the *Raise the Harvest Home, Loan Retirement Appeal*. Thank you for your financial support to retire this loan for repairs to our roof and HVAC system in only three years.

If you haven't pledged yet, please do so. If you'd like to review the testimonies given during our worship services from October 23 through November 20 about *Raise the Harvest Home*, then check out the recordings on YouTube, Facebook, or our Website. Each testimony occurs after the Children's Sermon, with the

exception of November 20, when Joel Esala speaks before the Offering.

Consider this: If households donate an average of \$500 per year for three years, we'll be able to retire the loan quickly and minimize the interest payments. Prayerfully consider the impact of Covenant's ministries on your household and our community. Maintaining our church home helps us continue and grow our mission to be a..... *Welcoming, accepting community sharing the Glory of God's love with all!*

In Gratitude,

Rev. Joel A Esala, Charlie Bergmann, John Griffin, Cathy Levy, Dana Rudmose, and Betsy Sebastian

## Mid-Ohio Workers Association Angel Tree

Thank you so much for providing wonderful gifts to the children of Mid-Ohio Workers in past years. The Angel Tree is out in the hall so you can drop off your donations any time until **December 15th at 5:00 pm when we sort the toys into families**. We provide two gifts and stocking stuffers for around 150 children ages 0 to 17.

The names on the tree are not real children but representative of children we have gifted in past years. Please leave the "ornament" with the gift and write your name and address on the back. **Do not wrap the gifts.**

Your donations can be left under the tree or in the box next to the tree.

You are welcome to join us in Fellowship Hall on Thursday 15th to help sort the toys into families and box them for distribution at the Holiday Family Party on Saturday, December 17th. You are welcome to join us for the party. Set up is at 2:00, Party is at 4:00 in Fellowship Hall.

If you have any questions please contact Karen Hjelm at (614) 893-6577 or [orkhjelm43@gmail.com](mailto:orkhjelm43@gmail.com). Thank you for your generosity!

## Christmas Adopt-a-Family 2022

The Board of Deacons is requesting help in sponsoring Adopt-a-Family for six families who are in the COMPASS and Neighborhood Outreach programs at Broad Street Presbyterian Church. Descriptions of the six families (number of adults and ages of children) are available by contacting John Harder (614-906-0890 or [djharder2@gmail.com](mailto:djharder2@gmail.com)) and after worship (11:00 am) on Sunday, December 4. Volunteer sponsors should bring their gifts to Covenant (behind the reception desk) beginning Sunday, December 11 through Friday, December 16. Alternatively, volunteer sponsors may deliver their gifts to Broad Street Presbyterian Church between 9 and 11 am on Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. The six recipient families will pick up their gifts that afternoon. Gifts intended for adults should be wrapped, but presents for children should be left unwrapped in a bag along with appropriate wrapping material so that parents will have an opportunity to see and wrap presents for their children.



## CPW CHRISTMAS COOKIE BOXES

Christmas cookie boxes can be reserved by contacting Lynn Elliott at 614-286-6822 or [lelliott@prodigy.net](mailto:lelliott@prodigy.net). The boxes include seven different varieties of delicious cookies and each box is \$20.00. One hundred cookie boxes will be available to order and ready for pickup on **Sunday, December 11th**. Please reserve your box by Wednesday, December 7th. Thank you!

# DEACONS' CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING

The offering at the Maundy Thursday and Christmas Eve services support the work of the deacons. The Board of Deacons is not funded through the church budget. It is through these two special offerings that the deacons serve our members and the community.

How does the Board of Deacons Serve? Deacons transport members to medical appointments through the C.A.R.E.S. ride program. Meals are prepared and delivered to those recuperating, celebrating births, and grieving. The deacons host memorial receptions. On May 15 our Super Seniors celebrated with a special luncheon and entertainment. Deacons are responsible for communion preparation. They also host the Red Cross Blood Drives. Emergency funding is available for members and those in the community.

Beyond our doors, a monthly breakfast is prepared and served at Ronald McDonald House. Deacons take a meal and join in fellowship with those at Hoge for HM3. We fight hunger through Crop Walk, provide joy by organizing Adopt-A-Family at Christmas, and supply assistance to the Mid Ohio Workers Association. The deacons also extend support to the Mid Ohio Food Collective and COMPASS at Broad Street Presbyterian Church.



## DONATE METAL WATER BOTTLES for those who visit the OPEN SHELTER

One of the opportunities to give this Christmas Season includes providing *stainless steel water bottles including loops* so people who visit the Open Shelter can attach them with a carabiner clip to their backpacks or belt loops. Reach out to Cathy Levy with your questions; she answers a few of them, below:

Question: Why stainless steel?

Answer: We've learned that stainless steel bottles are healthier to

drink from; also, they are easier to clean.

Question: What do you mean by "loops"?

Answer: See the picture, below; each bottle's lid includes a sturdy loop for hooking your fingers through or hooking a carabiner hook through.

Question: What is a carabiner hook?

Answer: These are popular with rock climbers and hikers; these are metal loops with spring-loaded gates used to quickly and reversibly connect components. In this case, with the loop on a water bottle, a carabiner hook helps you attach the bottle to your belt loop or backpack strap (see the picture).

Question: Must we donate a carabiner hook too?

Answer: No, we'll buy boxes full of those and add them to each water bottle to make it convenient for all. If you do decide to donate hooks, make sure they are sturdy with a strong spring.

Question: The deadline is Thursday, December 8?

Answer: We'll take the first load to the Open Shelter on Friday, December 9th when we bring our monthly delivery of 175 sacked lunches. They will use them in the 150 Holiday Gift Boxes that they provide every year. In our monthly deliveries to Open Shelter, we bring drinks, including bottled water. We're wondering if high quality stainless steel water bottles will reduce the demand for bottled water, thus improving the impact on the environment. So, depending on the popularity of this approach, we might continue our request for more donations. If you have donations after 12/8, let Cathy know and she'll get them to the Open Shelter (either in time for the Holiday Gift Boxes, or she'll take them with a monthly delivery of the lunches).

*The Open Shelter is an Advocacy Center & Day Services Shelter for homeless and marginally-housed people in Central Ohio.*

**Anna Jo Beeson  
100th Birthday!**

As charter and long time member of Covenant, Anna Jo will be celebrating her 100th birthday on December 12, 2022!!

While minor mobility issues have kept her from attending services on a regular basis, she is still very fond of the friends she has in the Covenant family.

Her daughters invite you to send a note or birthday card greeting to help her celebrate this special day!!

**Anna Jo Beeson  
Hilliard Assisted Living  
4303 Trueman Blvd #142  
Hilliard OH 43026**



## **Celebrate Mary Rasche 100th Birthday! December 16th**

As we celebrate Anna Jo Beeson's 100th birthday on December 12th, let us continue celebrating another longtime member's 100th birthday on December 16th. Covenant members are invited to send a card to Mary Rasche. Let us make her birthday special!

**Mary Rasche  
6000 Riverside Drive, Apt. B-275  
Dublin, OH 43017**

## **CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS**



Interested in ordering a Christmas poinsettia in dedication of a loved one? The order forms are located on the table at the East entrance with instructions. The cost is \$10/plant payable by check or cash.



## COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN (CPW) CHRISTMAS COFFEE WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7 @ 9:30AM, FELLOWSHIP HALL

We are extending an invitation to both men and women to attend the CPW coffee on Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am. Weldon Adams, Emeritus Minister of Music, will present the history behind some of our Christmas carols, along with a sing-along of familiar carols. Please contact the office at 614-451-6677 if you plan to attend.

## Covenant's Neighborhood Family Christmas Party is Back!! \*December 9\*

The Nurture and Outreach is delighted to be bringing back the Neighborhood Family Christmas Party! It will be on Friday evening, December 9<sup>th</sup>, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. No need to make a reservation—simply join us in Fellowship Hall for Pizza, Crafts, Games, Christmas music, Conversation, Community, and Fun!

## Join Us for Covenant's Christmas Brunch! December 18

After the Special Christmas music service on December 18, join us for a Christmas Potluck Brunch! It will begin right after church, at around 11:00 a.m., and run until 12:00 noon. If you can, please bring a casserole, fruit, pastry, or cookies to share. To make a reservation and to sign up for what you will share, please see the flier with sign-up sheet in the Sunday Bulletin on November 27, December 4, and December 11 or call the Church office at 614-451-6677. The Nurture and Outreach Commission looks forward to seeing you at the Christmas Brunch!

### Christmas Eve Services

covenant presbyterian

The Story told by  
Children



5 PM



FROM  
GENERATION  
TO GENERATION...  
*We tell this story*

The Story told by  
Music



8 PM



## COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

***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"

- 1<sup>st</sup> Monday at 7:00 pm, Elizabeth Circle, Mona Connolly, moderator via Zoom
- 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday at 9:30 am in the Church Lounge, Eunice-Lydia Circle, Susan Imel, moderator
- 3<sup>rd</sup> 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
- 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays at 9:30 a.m. in the Church Lounge, Prayer Shawl Circle, Louise Davidson and Nancy Davidson

### **Christmas Coffee**

Everyone is invited to the CPW Christmas Coffee gathering, Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am. Weldon Adams, Emeritus Minister of Music, will present a program on the history of Christmas carols, including a sing-along of some carols. Please contact the office at 614-451-6677 to RSVP.

### **Garage Sale Good News, Bad News**

The good news is that CPW plans to hold a somewhat limited garage sale this spring, but the bad news is that we have no place to store things in the church prior to the sale. PLEASE find a place to store your items in your home or perhaps with a friend who might have room. Please note we will not have a clothing room or a book room. Other items you donate must be clean, in working order and usable. A complete list of places accepting your recyclable items will be offered for information soon. If you have questions contact Louise Davidson through the church.

For more information about CPW circles and activities, contact Sandy St. Martin, CPW moderator, [covenant@covenantpcusa.org](mailto: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 December 16 to continue discussion of Brian McLaren's book, *Do I Stay Christian?* Reading for the 16th extends through Chapters 17, 18, and 19. New participants are always welcome. Meetings are held 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

The Spiritual Development and Adult Learning Commission is searching for writers for this year's Advent devotional. This is a deeply meaningful way to share your faith, seasonal memories, and family traditions, with your church family during the Advent season. Click [here](#) to access the Sign Up Genius to choose a Bible passage and see the guidelines for your contributions, due by November 18.

**Wednesday Bible Study 1:00-2:00 pm:** December 7 from 1-2 pm, we will continue our study of the book of John. (You can find an overview of John at [bibleproject.com](http://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](mailto:lauriejohnson@covenantpcusa.org).

**Wednesday Evening Book Study 7:00-8:00 p.m.** - Our next book was recommended by Gail Messick to further extend that learning; Gail has agreed to facilitate our discussion. The title is '[A Country Between](#)', written by Stephanie Saldaña. Click on the blue link to get to Amazon. There are copies available at the public library as well. **We will meet on Wednesday, January 4, 2023, at 7:00 by Zoom**, (just one time) to discuss the entire book. There will be reminders of this meeting in the Wednesday all church email as the time to meet draws closer. Please contact the church or Tori Vazquez for a link.

Following is the Amazon book description.

*"When young mother Stephanie Saldana finds herself in an empty house at the beginning of Nablus road—the dividing line between East and West Jerusalem—she sees more than a Middle Eastern flashpoint. She sees what could be home.*

*Before her eyes, the fragile community of Jerusalem opens, and she starts to build her family to outlast the chaos. But as her son grows, so do the military checkpoints and bomb sirens, and Stephanie must learn to bridge the gap between safety and home, always questioning her choice to start her family and raise her child in a country at war."*



## LIST OF CHRISTMAS GIFT GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

At Covenant Presbyterian Church, we always find ways to share the glory of God's love, especially at Christmas time. To learn about how to participate in any of these giving opportunities (including deadlines and contact information for each), please stop by the table in the church lobby for a copy of the list. Or, contact the church office, Cathy Levy, or Beth Askue, who will send you a copy. Or, download the list from the first page of the church's website, [www.covenantpcusa.org](http://www.covenantpcusa.org).

Remaining Ministries to Serve this season include:

1. Layette Supplies (Sandy St. Martin, Deadline today, at the Christmas Coffee, 12/7)
2. Support for FCCS' Holiday Wish (Sandy St. Martin, Deadline today, at the Christmas Coffee, 12/7)
3. Water Bottles for those served by the Open Shelter (Cathy Levy, Deadline this Thursday, 12/8)
4. Christmas Joy Offering (Beth Askue)
5. Deacons' Adopt-a-Family (John Harder, Deadline Fri., Dec. 16)
6. Christmas Cookies for Sale (Lynn Elliot)
7. Christmas Luncheon for Survivors (Barbara Marshall, Cook Wed., Dec. 14, Party Thu., Dec. 15)
8. Gift Boxes for Kids and Food Boxes for Families from MWA (Karen Hjelm, Deadline Thu., Dec 15)
9. Christmas Party at HM3 (Mona Connolly, Deadline Fri, Dec 16)
10. Deacons' Christmas Eve Offering (Bonnie James)

Thank you for considering an opportunity to practice our faith and humanity in service of others in this Holy Season!

## SOS FOOD PANTRY APPRECIATION

Thank you to the congregation for your GENEROUS support of the Thanksgiving Ingathering of Food for the SOS Food Pantry. We received hundreds of cans and boxes of assorted food and this will help us meet our needs for many months. The monetary donations will allow us to continue to purchase perishable food each week. The mission is strong thanks to your support!

The SOS Food Pantry Team



## CATCH Court Luncheon December 15

Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, Covenant will host the luncheon for members of the CATCH Court program, Freedom and Court staff and mentors. The Task Team working on this event welcomes help decorating tables, preparing and serving food, and helping as needed. If you would like to be part of this effort for the CATCH women, contact Barbara Marshall through the church.

The Anti- Human Trafficking Team thanks Covenant members for their great generosity! Together you exceeded our goal for gift cards for the Butterflies' gift bags! Volunteers and staff for Freedom a la Cart filled these bags with cards and other donated items this week at Covenant. Many thanks for contributing to this mission and ministry effort.



Join Freedom a la Cart in providing items for survivors of human trafficking within Columbus through our donation drive today! Freedom a la Cart, a nonprofit in downtown Columbus, exists to "empower survivors of sex trafficking and exploitation to lead new lives of freedom and self-sufficiency." Covenant will help by collecting items to put in holiday bags to provide hope to women in Freedom's support group. Covenant is collecting \$10.00 fast

food gift cards and our goal is to collect 150 by Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. Members of Covenant's Anti-Human Trafficking Team will welcome your donations each Sunday morning at church through December 4<sup>th</sup>.

If you wish to contribute money for gift cards make checks payable to Covenant Presbyterian church and indicate Freedom or FALC on the memo line.

## \$10 FAST FOOD GIFT CARDS FOR FREEDOM A LA CART'S BUTTERFLIES\*

*\*SUPPORT GROUPS FOR CATCH COURT*

## 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!

*Join us! You could help by shopping, pre-assembling, preparing on Friday morning, and/or delivering on Friday morning (see below for details). Our next delivery date is **Friday, December 9th** or you can help in any future month.*

Covenant helps out people in need (including people who are homeless and marginally-housed) 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 8:00 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 larger hatchback car or 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](mailto:covenant@covenantpcusa.org).

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



Join the team creating  
**175 Sack Lunches for the  
 OPEN SHELTER**  
 on Parsons Ave.  
 on the 2nd Friday of every month  
 from 8:00 to 9:10

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



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

*The next meal will be served by the Elizabeth Circle on Saturday, December 17th,  
 and they are serving the Beef Stew recipe used in January and February, 2022.  
 To help as a chef or as a server from 4-7pm, please contact Mona Connolly.  
 See also the CHRISTMAS GIVING OPPORTUNITIES for ways to help with the  
 Christmas Party they'll host that evening.*

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. The wearing of masks is optional for both servers and guests.

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

- **We're opening up the Signups for 2023! Please sign up as an individual or as a group. We need help starting February 18th and every 3rd Saturday thereafter.**
- 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 and for January 21, 2023... **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.

**Signup** or Learn more through this tool: <https://bitly.com/CovenantHM3SignUp> or by contacting Cathy Levy (send an email to [covenant@covenantpcusa.org](mailto: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.

**SIGN UP as an Individual or Group for a 3rd Sat. in 2023 to be the hand of Christ in Love and Hospitality cooking and/or serving home-cooked food for our neighbors at HM3/Hoge Memorial Pres. Church**

**Contact: Cathy Levy or use**  
**[bitly.com/CovenantHM3SignUp](https://bitly.com/CovenantHM3SignUp)**

**Worried about what to cook for 50?  
Ask Cathy for a list of the last 17 menus  
which included these Main Dishes:**



**BBQ Chicken, Beef, Pulled Pork Sandwiches,  
Beef Stew, Chicken Tetrazinni, Johnny Marzetti,  
Meatloaf, Sliced Ham, Sliced Turkey**



**PRESBYTERIAN  
DISASTER  
ASSISTANCE**

OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

Text PDAUKR to  
41444 to donate.

<https://pda.pcusa.org/>



## **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance – Ukraine and Hurricane Relief**

Your financial support and partnership enables Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) to bring hope to communities and individuals recovering from natural and human-caused disaster

situations. God's people are called on to stand in the "GAP" – Give. Act. Pray. Give to a disaster/relief effort of your choice by designating the Disaster Response "DR" project you would like to support. View the list of [Active Disaster Responses](#) (includes links to give online)



## **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](mailto: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.

## PRAYER CHAIN



Contact Laurie Johnson ([lauriejohnson@covenantpcusa.org](mailto: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](mailto: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

## INFORMATION/MISCELLANEOUS

[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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