

February 2017

Presbyterian Church of the Covenant



COVENANT

Inclusive, Open-Minded and Home for Your Soul.

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Sunday Morning Schedule

9:00-10:00 First Service
10:00-10:20 Fellowship time
10:20-11:10 Study Groups
11:15-12:00 Second Service
Nursery 9:00-12:00 Rm. 101

Important Dates ...

Feb. 4: Church Work Day, 9:30am-12:00pm

Feb. 6: Higher Ground breakfast, 10:00am

Feb. 7: In*Spire Meditation 12:00pm; Group Brown Bag Lunch, 12:30pm, Fellowship Hall

Feb. 13: Session Meeting, 6:00 pm, Faseló Room

Feb. 14: Valentine's Day! RAOK: Hug someone!

Feb. 14: Sierra Club Mtg., 6:00pm, Fellowship Hall

Feb. 20: Office Closed, Presidents' Day, Federal Holiday

Feb. 20 College Hill Neighborhood Assn. meeting, 7:00pm, Fellowship Hall

Feb.25: "Faith Forward" LGBTQ Faith Advocacy Event, 9:00am-4:30pm

Feb. 26: Joint Service and Brunch!



The Covenant Compendium

SESSION DIGEST

The Session met on Monday, January 15, 2017. the following actions were approved:

TENANT

The tenant who has been in arrears with rent is partially caught up but has a way to go to pay all the rent. The Session will decide what to do if the rent is not fully paid by the end of February.

SESSION MEMBERS AND BUSINESS

Mark welcomed the newly elected members to the Session: Annie Oakley, Elsie Hutchens, and Nancy Schaefer for the class of 2019, and Marcia Rhodes for Kelley Griffith's third year. Their membership will become official at the January 29th installation. Mark also thanked the outgoing members—Lem Cox, Morgan Glover, and Kelley Griffith—for their service to the Session and the church. The Session also elected Nancy Schaefer as treasurer and Annie Oakley as clerk.

BUDGET FOR 2017

The treasurer, Nancy Schaefer, reported that although total revenues for 2016 were \$28,387 lower than expected and that the overall deficit for the year was \$48,809, she was encouraged that 27 people had submitted pledge cards so far this year. Since Nancy said she will retire as treasurer sometime next summer, the Session will begin considering the following questions: 1) What responsibilities should be included in a job description for this position? 2) What should the qualifications of a new treasurer be? 3) Should the treasurer be paid? 4) How might the treasurer's duties be shared by other people?

INTERIM PROCESS

Mark Sandlin, our interim pastor, said that at the February 26th brunch he will present a short summary of the congregational meetings that have so far been part of the interim process. He expects that the church should have a pastor nominating committee (PNC) in place by March.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

Narcotics Anonymous has ceased to meet at our church, in accordance with a motion made by the Session at its December meeting.

HOT WATER HEATER

The church will share the cost with After Gateway of a new hot water heater that will be used solely by them.

CHAIR OF BUILDING COMMITTEE

George Lockhart will become the new chair of the Building Committee.

PASTORAL CARE ASSISTANT

Jane Cauthen has begun her work as our Pastoral Care Assistant and has engaged other church members to help her.

Respectfully submitted, Kelley Griffith, Clerk of Session

February Sunday Service Information

February 5:

9:00 Host: Jane Cauthen
 9:00 Music: Nancy Pitkin/Elaine Penn
 11:15 Asst.: Rev. Julia Strobe
 11:15 Ushers: Nancy Schaefer, Lem Cox

February 19:

9:00 Host: Susan Andreatta
 9:00 Music: Betsy Bevan
 11:15 Lay Asst.: Ralph Cauthen
 11:15 Ushers: Ann Finch, Charlie Finch
 11:15 Lay Asst.: David Johnson

February 12:

9:00 Host: Jane Walter
 9:00 Music: Will Ridenour
 11:15 Lay Asst.: Ann Finch
 11:15 Ushers: Clara Kelly, Barry Barber

February 26:

9:00 Host: Gratia Wright
 9:00 Music: Walt Lott
 11:15 Lay Asst.: David Johnson
 11:15 Ushers: Celia Starling, Frank Starling
 11:15 Lay Asst.: Ralph Cauthen

Every Week ...

Mon.: Yoga, 6:00pm, Parlor **
 Meditation, 6:00m, Marty's Room (106)
Tues.: In*Spire Meditation, 12:00pm, Sanctuary, free!
Wed.: Coffee Group, 9:00am, The Green Bean
 WNFS Potluck, 6:00pm, Fellowship Hall
 Choir rehearsal, 7:00pm, Sanctuary
Thur.: Pilates, 4:30pm, Parlor **
 Yoga, 5:30pm, Fellowship Hall**
Fri.: Coffee Group, 9:00am, Panera (New Garden Rd.)
 ** \$10 per class; \$7 for church members!

Church Office Hours

Mark Sandlin: Mon.—Thurs., 9:00am-3:00pm
Kate Baird: Mon.—Friday, 9:00am-3:30pm

Church Office Closings

The church office will be closed on Monday, February 20th, in observance of Presidents' Day.

Wednesday Night Fellowship Suppers Begin on Wednesday, Feb. 1st

Bring your family and friends to share PCoC's weekly potluck suppers every Wednesday night at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. The dinners are a great opportunity for fellowship and fun, and afterwards, there may be a program or a chance to work on a service project, or a learning opportunity. Volunteers to lead after-dinner programs are always needed and welcome!

Monthly Work Day, Saturday, Feb. 4th

Saturday, February 4th is the first Monthly Workday of 2017; the hours are 9:30am to 12:00pm. Come for the entire time or for just a part of it, as you're available. A chore list and hot coffee will be available in the Fellowship Hall, and there's always something that needs attention inside and out (inside if the weather's bad). Lora Farlow will welcome all comers on Saturday and on the first Saturday of each month. Many hands make light (and fun!) work.

New Study Group Meets, Sunday, Feb. 5th

Join us for the first three weeks in February as Vance Arnold facilitates a group in writing our own personal manifesto. What's a personal manifesto? It is a way for you to get back to what you are meant to do, to find your North Star, to re-align your compass. A personal manifesto is a call to action, a step forward, a no-excuses definition of your clearest, best, most alive self. A personal manifesto is the writing equivalent of a vision board or a video statement. Please note that all activities will occur in class. There will be no emailing of our personal manifestoes to one another. Class size is limited, so call the church office ASAP to enroll.

Higher Ground Breakfast on Monday, Feb. 6th

Join Sue Stinson and other PCoC volunteers to make and serve breakfast to the clients of Higher Ground at 210 E. Bessemer Ave. Donated funds which exceed breakfast needs will be forwarded to HG to be used for bus passes (which are a lifeline for many clients), or other pressing needs. Drop your gift in the offering basket; if writing a check, mark "Higher Ground" on the memo line.

In*Spire Weekly Meditation & Monthly Luncheon, Tuesday, Feb. 7th

PCoC's In*Spire Meditation group meets every Tuesday at noon in the Sanctuary. The 20-minute Meditations are led by group volunteers and it's open to the community. It's a refreshing time of shared peaceful energy that renews the spirit. The first Tuesday of each month we enjoy brown bag lunches together in the Fellowship Hall at 12:30, or we try a local eatery. Everyone is welcome!

"Faith Forward" LGBTQ Faith Advocacy Event, Saturday, Feb. 25

A gathering of LGBTQ people of faith and allies will explore opportunities to build skills and resources grounded in racial and gender justice to empower affirming religious communities to combat discrimination in North Carolina. 9:00am—4:30pm, Fellowship Hall. Sponsored by More Light Presbyterians, the Natl. LGBTQ Task Force, and others.

Joint Service & Brunch, Sunday, Feb. 26th

We'll share a joint service at 9:00am, then will gather in the Fellowship Hall at 10:15 for a fabulous feast. Bring your favorite breakfast casserole, bread, fruit, to share; please contact Joy Saleeby to let her know what you'll be bringing, to avoid duplications: straycatmom22@yahoo.com. We also need volunteers to set up and clean up; let Joy know your availability.

PCoC Welcomes New Session Members

Welcome to the new Class of 2019 Elders, Elsie Hutchens, Annie Oakley, and Nancy Schaefer, along with Marcia Rhodes, who will serve out Kelley Griffith's remaining one-year term. Congratulations to each of you, and thanks for serving the PCoC family.

PCoC Has a New Pastoral Care Assistant

The Session has approved the appointment of Jane Cauthen to the position of Pastoral Care Assistant on an interim basis during this period of transition. She will be providing pastoral visits to those who are homebound or who need visitation for other reasons. Contact the church office to schedule a visit or if you're aware of any needs.

IRC Book Drive

We're still collecting books for the IRC and their clients; contributions always welcome. They report that their clients are especially interested in books on spiritual practices and in fiction. Put donations in the blue tub under the table at the back of the Fellowship Hall. Donations are picked up by the IRC about once a month. Many thanks to those who have already donated!

Reminder: Inclement Weather Procedures

In case of inclement weather, please check PCoC's Facebook site, or WFMY (Channel 2, CBS) or WXII (Channel 12, NBC) for service cancellations; notifications may also be sent via email. For church office closings, our stated policy is that if county schools are closed, the church office will be closed also, and any functions scheduled for that day/evening at the church are cancelled.

In Our Community

Doing Our Work 2:

2016-2017 Series on Race, Racial Inequity,
and our Future in Greensboro

A series of monthly presentations from Fall 2016-Summer 2017, focusing on the institutions and structures that have created and maintained the racialized society in which we live. Although the series intends to provide opportunities for white people to learn about the historical origins and roots of racial inequality, ALL ARE WELCOME. We are thankful for the on-going guidance, support, and collaboration of our colleagues of color. Workshops are free of charge.



One Person's Anti-Racism Journey — David Billings

Tuesday, January 24, 7-8:30pm — Westminster Presbyterian, 3906 W. Friendly Ave, Greensboro 27410

How Whites in Greensboro Recall School Integration — Kristen Lavelle

Tuesday, February 7, 7-8:30pm — St Andrews Episcopal, 2105 W. Market St, Greensboro 27403

Race & Education in Guilford Co. and North Carolina — John Batchelor

Tuesday, March 7, 7-8:30pm — Guilford Park Presbyterian, 2100 Fernwood Dr, Greensboro, 27408

Racial Disparities in Greensboro Housing

Tuesday, April 4, 7-8:30pm — St Andrews Episcopal, 2105 W. Market St, Greensboro 27403

A History of the International Civil Rights Center & Museum

Tuesday, May 2, 7-8:30pm — UU Church of Greensboro, 5603 Hilltop Rd, Jamestown 27282

Implicit Bias: Where Does It Come from, and What Do We Do About It?

Tuesday, June 6, 7-8:30pm — First Baptist, 1000 W. Friendly, Greensboro 27401

A program of: Guilford Anti-Racism Alliance (GARA) 620 S. Elm Street, Ste 381, Greensboro NC 27406,
co-sponsored by the white caucus of the Community-City Working Group



LGBTQ Faith Advocacy Event

Saturday, Feb. 25, 2017 | 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Presbyterian Church of the Covenant

501 S. Mendenhall Street, Greensboro, NC 27403

A gathering of LGBTQ people of faith and allies will explore opportunities to build skills and resources grounded in racial and gender justice to empower affirming religious communities to combat discrimination in North Carolina. Affirming congregations have the opportunity to be examples of a more equal and inclusive community. Come together and engage with folks of every walk of life knowing that we are strongest when we learn, grow, heal, and build movements together proclaiming that our faith affirms the lives of all LGBTQ people.

From \$0 to \$100, select the amount of contribution that works for you. Your contribution supports the expenses for food, printing, and logistics to pull together this experience.

FULL SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE. NO ONE WILL BE TURNED AWAY.

Register at: <http://tinyurl.com/NCfaithforward2017>



Presbyterian Church of the Covenant

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Check us out online!
www.athinkingchurch.org



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