### December 2018



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Community Events

#### **Sunday Morning Schedule**

9:00-10:00 Early Gathering 10:00-10:20 Fellowship time 10:20-11:00 Study Groups 11:15-12:00 Second Service

#### Important Dates ...

Dec. 1: Monthly Work Day, 9:30am—12:00pm, F. Hall HOLIDAY DECORATING!

Dec. 2: Communion Sunday, Both services, open to all.

Dec. 3: College Hill Neighborhood Assn. holiday party & meeting, 4:00pm, Fellowship Hall

Dec. 4: In\*Spire Meditation, 12:00pm, Sanctuary, and Brown Bag Lunch at 12:30pm in Fellowship Hall

Dec. 5: PEO Annual Meeting, 12:00pm, Fellowship Hall

Dec. 11: Session Meeting, 6:00 pm, Faselo Room

Dec. 12: Sierra Club, 7:00pm, Fellowship Hall

Dec. 17: After Gateway Holiday Party, 2:00pm, Fellowship Hall

Dec. 21: Winter Solstice

Dec. 23: 10:00 Joint Service, "A John Denver Christmas" no classes

Dec. 24: Jazzy Christmas Eve service, 5:00pm, Sanctuary

Dec. 21-26: Office Closed

### Presbyterian Church of the Covenant



# Session Meeting Minutes, November 13, 2018

The Visioning Team shared recommendations regarding ways to market our church: banners, internet resources, providing information to newcomers' groups. They made further recommendations for community and growth opportunities to be shared with the next ordained pastor. It was also noted we need to freshen up the Sanctuary with paint and new carpet.

After Gateway will lease the ground floor pastor's office; the pastor's office will be relocated to the second floor. The space needs paint and furniture. We plan on a WiFi communication system for the secretary and the pastor, as well as installation of a door intercom in the secretary's office for safety. We are working on an update to the After Gateway lease, effective in 2019.

Session approved a tentative fundraising concert event in March 2019 to benefit the

Experiential School of Greensboro, a Charter school. Rhiannon Giddens, Laurelyn Dossett, Molly McGinn, and other local musicians will be performing.

Mark Sandlin is pursuing the updating of the resource booklets for the homeless to be placed in the boxes at the Sanctuary entrances.

The Session approved the new contract for our interim pastor, Mark Sandlin.

Resource shares that we are ahead in our income by \$20,000 due to being fully tenanted and selling more parking passes this year. Duke Energy also gave us a new designation which saves on utility costs. Resource says they have a balanced budget for 2019 to present at the December Session meeting.

The Session approved a \$1000 donation to Mary's House, as we had unused Outreach funds. PCoC is collecting donations for Mary's House, including food, bedding, cleaning supplies, and other needs. We also collected jewelry for their fundraising event.

Worship announced that on December 16th all three choirs will be participating in both services. On December 23rd, we will hold a joint service at 10:00am, "A John Denver Christmas" with Nancy Pitkin and Elaine Penn leading the music. On December 24<sup>th</sup>, we'll hold a Jazzy Christmas Eve service at 5:00pm.

Building and Grounds reports that there were several trips to get the boilers up and running smoothly. The No Trespassing signs have been posted to allow the GPD to be able to intervene in disturbances. Resources Boxes have been added to the front for access by the homeless. A leak in the roof was also repaired and a Gateway room will receive new flooring. A windowed door needs to be installed on Room 211.

Personnel met to study the new Child Protection Plan from the Presbytery and is formulating a compliance plan. The salaries and Christmas bonuses were reviewed and submitted to Resource.

Congregational Care provided visits and calls to people by Marcia Rhodes, Lem and Bobbie Cox, Jim North, Roxanna Wennberg, and Jane Cauthen.

Annie Oakley, Clerk of The Session

# **December Sunday Service Information**

Dec. 2: Communion Sunday

9:00 Host: Elsie Hutchens 9:00 Music: Cecelia DiCarlo

11:15 Asst.: Ann Finch 11:15 Music: Nancy Pitkin

11:15 Ushers: Nancy Schaefer, Lem Cox

**Dec. 16:** 

9:00 Host: Linda Jensen

9:00 Music: PCoC Choir, Bell Choir, Men's Quartet 10:00 Music:

11:15 Asst.: Janet Blue

11:15 Music: PCoC Choir, Bell Choir, Men's Quartet

11:15 Ushers: Ann Finch. Charlie Finch

Dec. 30:

9:00 Host: Susan Andreatta 9:00 Music: Joel Landau

11:15 Asst.: TBA 11:15 Music: Dave Fox

11:15 Ushers: Nancy Schaefer, Lem Cox

### Monthly Work Day, Dec. 1st

#### **HOLIDAY DECORATING ON DECEMBER 1st!**

Meet at 9:30am in the Sanctuary to share coffee and browse the task list as we decorate the building for the holiday season. We can't do it without you! Email Lora Farlow: lora.farlow@gmail.com to volunteer.

### In\*Spire Meditation Each Tuesday

In\*Spire Meditation meets every Tuesday at noon in the Sanctuary for 20 minutes of free, group-led meditation. It's open to the church and the community, so come enjoy some spiritual nourishment. We share a brown bag lunch following meditation on the first Tuesday of each month; join us on Tuesday, December 4th, at 12:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.

### Weekly Wednesday Night Supper

PCoC's weekly potluck supper group gathers at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a dish to share and enjoy dinner and conversations with the group. It's always fun, always delicious! Sometimes there's a program afterwards, or a class; contact Vance Arnold to suggest a topic: (336) 272-5736.

### Church Office December Schedule

The church office will be closed Dec. 21-26 Rev. Mark Sandlin will be out of the office Dec. 26— Jan. 3 Dec. 9:

9:00 Host: David Johnson

9:00 Music: Emma Lee & Tyler Millard

11:15 Asst.: TBA

11:15 Music: Nancy Pitkin, Amanda Jens 11:15 Ushers: Clara Kelly, Barry Barber

Dec. 23: Joint Service (No Classes)

10:00 Host.: TBA

10:00 Music: Nancy Pitkin, Elaine Penn 10:00 Ushers: Celia Starling, Frank Starling



### **Church Office Hours**

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

### Every Week ...

Mon.: 6:00pm, Yoga, Parlor \*\*

6:00m, Meditation, Marty's Room (106)

Tues.: 12:00pm, In\*Spire Meditation, Sanctuary, free!

**Wed.:** 9:00am, Coffee Group, The Green Bean 6:00pm, WNFS Potluck, Fellowship Hall

Thur.: 5:00pm, Yoga, Fellowship Hall\*\*

**Fri.:** 9:00am, Coffee Group, Panera (New Garden Rd.)

\*\* \$10 per class; \$7 for church members!

### Higher Ground Breakfast, Dec. 3rd

Join our volunteers at 10:00am on Dec. 3rd at Higher Ground, 210 East Bessemer Ave., as we make and serve breakfast to this community group for those with HIV/AIDS. Contact Sue Stinson to volunteer or for more information: suestinson1968@yahoo.com. Donations go directly for meal supplies; make checks to PCoC; write "Higher Ground" in the memo line.

#### Choir Rehearsal Schedules

Chancel Choir: 4:00pm, Dec. 3, Dec. 10

Men's Quartet: 11:00am, Dec. 15

Bell Choir: 5:30pm, Dec. 3, Dec. 10; 10:00am, Dec. 15 The choirs are always seeking new voices. Contact

Nancy Pitkin: nancypitkin@aol.com

#### Honor Cards On Sale Now

Honor cards are available on Sundays between services in the Fellowship Hall and on weekdays in the church office during regular office hours. Cost is \$5.00 each, and this year we have cards from Habitat for Humanity, Greensboro Urban Ministry, the Interactive Resource Center, People to People Liaison, and Backpack Beginnings. Quantities are limited, so buy yours soon!

#### Poinsettias On Sale Now

Order your holiday poinsettias now with the red forms on the back table in the Sanctuary! The final day to place an order is December 7th. All poinsettias ordered will be on display in the Sanctuary until the conclusion of the Christmas Eve service, when they may be taken home. Buy one as a gift or to honor the memory of a loved one.

### PNC Update

The Pastoral Nominating Committee has hit a snag in getting necessary information needed to make the timely decision we hoped to have. As soon as we can review, we'll continue the process.

#### Rev. Mark Sandlin Continues As PCoC Interim Pastor

December marks the anniversary of our Interim Pastor's tenure with Covenant. As the PNC process is still ongoing, the Session approved a 12-month extension of Rev. Sandlin's contract. We appreciate his willingness to continue to work with us under these contingency circumstances.

### Holiday Program Invitation from After Gateway

After Gateway has invited PCoC to attend their annual Holiday Program, at 1:00pm on Monday, December 17th, in the Fellowship Hall. Gateway has also written to Santa asking for some electronic needs for next year: a 42" (or larger) flat screen TV, 12 Kindle Fires, 2 desktop computers, and 1 laptop computer.

## Mary's House Donations Continue

PCoC is extending our drive for donations for the residents of Mary's House. They need canned or dried food items, cleaning supplies, paper supplies, new or gently used twin bed sheets/crib sheets, NEW pillows, bath towels/wash cloths, and office supplies (copy paper, black pens, manila folders). Contribution boxes are at the back of the Sanctuary. Financial contributions are accepted; make checks to PCoC and write "Mary's House" in the memo line.

### Lunch/Dinner Groups Beginning in January

The Fellowship Committee is interested in finding ways to enable PCoC to engage in community, and has suggested forming new lunch or dinner groups to do so. If you're interested in forming or facilitating such groups, please contact Joyce Powers at jkpowers42@gmail.com. Sharing a meal with each other is a fun way to build fellowship and friendship and to grow our community.

# Elaine Penn & Penn Family to Perform at O. Henry on Dec. 8th

The entire Penn Family will be performing live at the O. Henry Hotel's Saturday Jazz Series on Saturday, Dec. 8th, from 6:30pm—9:30pm. There's no cover charge to enjoy their fabulous musical talent! Elaine and the family would love to see us all there to enjoy their show. Don't miss it.

### Merry Music at PCoC in December!

We have wonderful music to look forward to every Sunday morning in December:

- Sunday, December 3rd: Cecelia DiCarlo will share her musical gifts at the 9:00am Early Gathering; Nancy Pitkin will grace us with her leadership at the 11:15am Traditional Gathering.
- Sunday, December 9th: We welcome back Emma Lee and Tyler Millard to the Early Service in their first joint appearance (they were married in September!). At the Traditional Gathering, Nancy Pitkin will lead us in song and Amada Jens will play for us on the cello.
- Sunday, December 16th: We'll enjoy a holiday musical celebration at both services with offerings from the PCoC Bell Choir, the Chancel Choir, and the Men's Quartet. We'll also enjoy offerings from guest musicians Hope and Honor An Carter-Davis.
- Sunday, December 23rd: We'll share a Joint Service at 10:00am as we enjoy "A John Denver Christmas". Nancy Pitkin and Elaine Penn will bring us delightful holiday music as we celebrate the season.
- Monday, December 24th: PCoC's annual Jazzy Christmas Eve Service begins at 5:00pm.
   Nancy Pitkin and Elaine Penn will be joined by guest musicians Aaron Matson on guitar and vocals, and Melvin Holland on saxophone. Elaine will lead in some congregational songs.
- Sunday, December 30th: The Early Gathering will welcome local musician and frequent PCoC guest Joel Landau, whose music is always enjoyable and an eloquent accompaniment to the morning's message. Our Choir Director and noted musician Dave Fox will provide beautiful music as we end the year in worship and song.

# Presbyterian Church of the Covenant

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