

May 2021

Presbyterian Church of the Covenant



The Covenant Compendium

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Sunday Morning Schedule

11:00am Live Stream, Zoom, on PCoC's Facebook page (see page 4)

Important Dates ...

PLEASE NOTE : The church building will remain closed for the month of May, due to the ongoing health crisis.

We will notify the congregation via email and posts on the church's website and Facebook page of the status of operations.

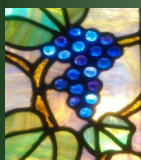
Rev. Sandlin and the church office manager, Kate Baird, will be at the office and will work from home during this time and are available for emails and phone calls.

Office hours will be:
Kate , Mondays, Wednesdays
Fridays at 10:00am; Rev.
Sandlin will be in on Mondays
at 10:00am.

We hope to see you all again very soon; in the meantime, stay home, wash your hands, and love one another!

Office Closed: Monday, May 31 for Memorial Day

Monthly Work Day:
Saturday, May 29th, 9:30am—
12:00pm



A Letter From Rev. Sandlin

Dear PCoC Family,

I couldn't be more excited about our service on May 16. We will finally be gathering together in person for the first time in over a year!

The COVID Response Team has recommended to your Session that we begin meeting outdoors for the foreseeable future. The first outdoors service will take place on Sunday, May 16th, at 11:00am. We will gather in the parking lot on Morehead Ave. outside of After Gateway's entrance. Social distancing and masks will be required, and the COVID Team will have marked the pavement to indicate physically-distanced seating. Please bring a chair to sit on. We will be taking temperatures as folks arrive (touchless, of course) and ask that, on any given Sunday, if you aren't feeling well, please refrain from attending. You can always join us online for that week, as we will continue to livestream the services, as well as have them available on Facebook and YouTube.

The format of the Sunday gathering will be much like it currently is online. We will have a Welcome, Scripture Reading, Music, the Message, Prayer, more Music, and a Closing. The hope is to give us a reasonably full worship experience while also not having us gather in large groups of at-risk people for too extended a time. We expect the service to last about 30 minutes for the time being.

I'd also like to thank you in advance for your patience at the first few gatherings as we work out any issues that may pop up. Not only will we be using an outside venue for the first time in quite a while, but I'll also be making use of technology in ways that I haven't needed to in the past. It'll all be tested ahead of time, but if there is one thing I've learned in the past year, it is to expect some unexpected things to happen.

Looking forward to seeing each of you soon!

PEACE!

Mark

Session Meeting Minutes, April 13, 2021

Resource Committee report

- Financial report: Currently we are in the black.

OLD BUSINESS

Building Closure: No one felt comfortable with reopening the building in the next month, so the building will be closed for next month.

Review Building reopening plan: Church services will start outdoors on May 16, weather permitting.

NEW BUSINESS

- ♦ Becoming a Hunger Action Congregation: Ann and Nancy are spearheading this and by September will have a plan on how to implement this.
- ♦ New Member recruitment: Lem, Janet, and Mark will discuss this. Possible use of the R. M. Williams Fund to bring in recognized speakers to attract people to the church

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Worship: Will continue online for now; Mark said there are usually 5-10K watchers when he starts his Sunday remark; can't tell how many are local, but will try to have information on this in May.

Spiritual Formation: Sunday morning Study group class is ongoing.

Building & Grounds

Strategic Plan 2021 Workplan Development: Using the Workplan to track progress on building maintenance. We have found someone to cut grass by the hour.

Interior

Decluttering the church: Barbara and the volunteers working on this have made tremendous progress, to be continued on monthly workdays.

Outreach: Anchor Hope Home is unable to receive the second delivery of backpacks/duffle bags. Ann will write a thank you note to Reconsidered Goods for their donations of them. Nancy presented a summary of the Hunger Action Congregation requirements. This was in the April newsletter, along with a call for volunteers who want to serve on a Hunger Action Team. We have inquired about involvement in the Guilford Food Council and the Greensboro Community Task Force. The next meeting of the task force is 5/11/21 by Zoom. Charlie spoke with Ann Comfort of the Outreach Committee at Westminster Presbyterian, who invited PCOC to join Westminster on Fridays (3-5 PM) to package food for the Out of the Garden project. Nancy and Charlie will meet before the April Outreach meeting to discuss the next steps for this team. The Small Wonders scholarship program is tabled until the summer. The Happy Meals Fund will continue to receive donations through April. Crescent Rotary of Greensboro will donate \$100-\$300 to the Spartan Open Pantry, thanks to Charlie's lobbying efforts.

Personnel: Congregational Care in March included contacts with members and attendees. The Cauthens and Lem Cox attended long-time member Bob Rayle's graveside service in High Point on March 23rd. Lem spoke for the church, expressing appreciation for Bob's life, character, and service to Covenant. Jane shared that in her enjoyable visits with him he always offered a meaningful prayer.

Monthly Work Day Minutes and Reminder

Thanks to the hard work of our wonderful volunteers, lots was accomplished at the April Work Day, held on April 24th. Since rain was in the picture, a lot of work took place inside, as we continued the effort to declutter the church. We've worked hard on emptying the basement, cleaning it, and getting tenants to label or removed items stored there. We filled a rental dumpster for the second month in a row! We'll need more help on the next work day, Saturday, May 29th, from 9:30am to 12:00pm. We'll be gardening, weather permitting!

Financial Summary as of March 31, 2021

Contributions are above the budgeted amount due to several members paying their annual pledge in full in March. Parking lot income is less than expected, but hopefully we will fully rent the parking lots for the fall semester. Our building expenses are much less than budgeted; however, costs will increase significantly as the building will need a deep-cleaning before re-opening later this year.

Category	Amount Spent Or Received	Amount Budgeted	(Under) Budget
REVENUES			
Contributions	\$ 41,910	\$ 31,770	\$ 10,140
Rent	16,112	16,793	(681)
Parking lot	1,050	6,375	(5,325)
Interest & dividends	1	5	(4)
Other	<u>615</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>615</u>
Total Revenues	<u>59,688</u>	<u>54,943</u>	<u>4,745</u>
EXPENSES			
COMMITTEES			
Personnel	30,496	32,435	(1,939)
Building Expense	18,962	23,481	(4,519)
Grounds	-	600	(600)
Music	650	599	51
Administrative	2,428	3,013	(585)
Benevolences	-	750	(750)
Outreach	-	825	(825)
Spiritual Formation	(240)	128	(368)
C. care & communications	-	150	(150)
Fellowship & worship	<u>296</u>	<u>237</u>	<u>59</u>
Total Committee Expenses	<u>52,592</u>	<u>62,218</u>	<u>(9,626)</u>
OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	<u>\$ 7,096</u>	<u>\$ (7,275)</u>	<u>\$ 14,371</u>
SPECIAL & UNUSUAL ITEMS			
Outdoor space heaters	<u>758</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>758</u>
SPECIAL & UNUSUAL ITEMS	<u>(758)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(758)</u>
NET EXCESS RECEIPTS/ (EXPENSES)	<u>\$ 6,338</u>	<u>\$ (7,275)</u>	<u>\$ 13,613</u>

Outreach Update

Thanks to generous donations from our PCoC family, we have fully funded this year's target goal of providing \$1,000.00 to purchase Happy Meals gift cards for use in providing meals to foster children in transition. Many thanks to all our contributors! Also, we're still accepting canned/dried foods for the UNCG Spartan Open Pantry; leave contributions in the box outside the church office. And we are still funding and making and sharing in the monthly breakfast for the clients and staff of Higher Ground; your financial contributions to help fund this go a long way! Write "Higher Ground" in the memo line of your check. Thanks to everyone!

Join us Online for Services and Fellowship

On Sundays at 11:00am, Rev. Sandlin's Sunday message is broadcast live at these sites:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86895217729> (Zoom webinar)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCar8ZVg434DF1uTtL86JEhg>

(YouTube)

<https://www.facebook.com/PCoC.GSO/>

<https://www.facebook.com/revmarksandlin>

<https://www.facebook.com/marksandlin>

<https://www.facebook.com/TheChristianLeft>

<https://www.facebook.com/christiansmisrepresented>

<https://www.facebook.com/thegodarticle>

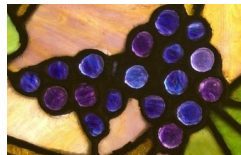


PCoC is on MeetUp.com

PCoC is now on Meetup.com! Go to: Meetup.com/Presbyterian-Church-of-the-Covenant. This site provides event reminders and gives us another place to connect with each other.

Presbyterian Church of the Covenant

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Check us out online!

www.athinkingchurch.org



COVENANT

Inclusive, Open-Minded and Home for Your Soul.