

January 2022



COVENANT

Inclusive, Open-Minded and Home for Your Soul.

**Inside this issue:**

Services, Schedules, 2

PCoC Updates 3

Other News 4

**Sunday Morning Schedule**

11:00am in the Sanctuary,  
Live Stream, and on PCoC's  
Facebook page (see page 4)

**Important Dates ...**

**PLEASE NOTE :** The church has resumed use of the PCoC Sanctuary and building, but is restricting use to those wearing masks, observing social distancing, and to meetings of one hour or less.

We will notify the congregation via email, website messages, and on our Facebook page if conditions change.

**Office hours:**

Kate Baird M-F, 9-3

Every Sunday: Weekly Service in the Sanctuary at 11:00am (livestreamed over Facebook at the same time)

Jan. 1: Happy New Year!

Jan. 8: Work day, 9:30am, Christmas Un-decorating!

Jan. 9: Pennies 4 Hunger

Jan. 11: Session Meeting, 6:00pm, via Zoom

Jan. 14: Out of The Garden

Jan. 17: MLK Day Holiday (Office Closed)

Jan. 29: Monthly Work Day: 9:30am—12:00pm

*Presbyterian Church of the Covenant*



**The Covenant Compendium**

***A Letter From Rev. Sandlin***

Hello PCoC Family!

As most of you know, I'll be spending the first three months of this year finishing up work on my Theological Doctorate and improving my guitar skills (hopefully!). I cannot begin to say how grateful I am for this opportunity to refresh and renew my spirit.

In my absence, PC(USA) minister Bryan McFarland will be moderating the Session and handling any emergency pastoral care. As for pulpit supply, two ministers, Lynice Pinkard and Reggie Weaver, will be filling in. I'm very excited to have the opportunity for you to hear them. They both are wonderful communicators and come from backgrounds that give them unique spiritual insights that would not be part of my spiritual journey and perspectives. I'm certain you will appreciate them both very much.

My office will look rather bare, but rest assured, I'm only taking a few things with me that will be helpful during my sabbatical. It will all be returning with me at the beginning of April.

Until that time, may you walk in harmony with each other and with Creation, recognizing that we are one.

May you know love, justice, and happiness throughout your life, and may your words and actions bring love, justice, and happiness to all.

PEACE!

Mark

***Our Condolences go to...***

The families of Chuck Oakley and Bobbie Cox, both of whom transitioned in December. Service information will be sent via email.

## ***Session Meeting Minutes, December 14, 2021***

### **Resource Committee report**

- Financial report: Nancy presented the November financial report and reviewed it for the Session. She presented the 2022 budget, which passed with revisions relating to funding the Sexton position.
- Moved and passed that the Session approve and the Personnel Committee establish a Maintenance Coordinator (Sexton) position (either staff or Independent Contractor) to be filled and funded beginning in 2022.

### **Strategic Plan Items**

- Building Options Decision Workplan: Dr Palmer will have a proposal to the Session by January 17 about ways she can help find resources for rebuilding the church buildings.
- There will be a meeting in January with new and outgoing Session members to develop overall 2022 workplan. All committees will hold meetings before this big meeting.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- Review plans for re-opening: No changes in current procedures, with masking required, meetings indoors to be less than an hour.
- Sabbatical update: Mark has pulpit supply leaders lined up. Brian McFarland will be in charge of Session meetings and everyday pastoral care.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Report on November Presbytery meeting: Ralph sent an email summarizing the meeting.
- Committee leaders for 2022: Mark will get complete list before the end of December.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Spiritual Formation:** The Study group is still reading the Karen Armstrong book.

**Building & Grounds:** Don highlighted the work done on the church since the last meeting.

**Interior:** Activities/Plans for Advent: the church was decorated on November 21; poinsettias were delivered and displayed by Jim North, who took care of them during the season. Clara will oversee decoration removal and storage in January.

**Communications:** Using Meetup to contact new members.

**Outreach:** Spartan Open Pantry took place the first three Saturdays in December. 75 pounds of food was delivered to Urban Ministry in honor of Chuck Oakley. Next year, we'll work on aid to Afghan refugees. Church members continue to help the Out of the Garden Project. Committee will decide how to use part of its budget for tornado relief.

Congregational Care Report for November: 32 contacts with members, attendees (visits, phone calls). Thanks to our Providers and Mark Sandlin who visited and gave much attention to Chuck and Annie Oakley during this time.

**Addendum: Important Actions taken December 19<sup>th</sup>:** At a called meeting of the Session, with a quorum, all members unanimously welcomed Rebekah Chandler as the church's newest member. At a Congregational call meeting after the worship service, with a quorum present, the following members were elected as **Session members of the Class of 2024:** Ralph Cauthen, Nancy Schaefer, and Clara Kelley.

## Financial Summary as of November 30, 2021

Category	Amount Spent or Received	Amount Budgeted	Over (Under) Budget
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Contributions	\$ 129,148	\$ 116,490	\$ 12,658
Rent	59,414	61,573	(2,159)
Parking Lot	15,460	23,375	(7,915)
Interest & Dividends	6	18	(12)
Other	3,214	-	3,214
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 207,242</b>	<b>\$ 201,456</b>	<b>5,786</b>
<b>EXPENSES, COMMITTEES</b>			
Personnel	119,769	118,928	841
Building Expense	76,371	86,098	(9,727)
Grounds	1,950	2,200	(250)
Music	4,042	2,199	1,843
Administrative	12,709	11,046	1,663
Benevolences	3,000	2,750	250
Outreach	1,995	3,025	(1,030)
Spiritual Formation	-	468	(468)
C. Care & Communications	198	550	(352)
Fellowship & Worship	1,434	871	563
<b>Total Committee Expenses</b>	<b>221,468</b>	<b>228,135</b>	<b>(6,667)</b>
<b>OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)</b>	<b>\$ (14,226)</b>	<b>\$ (26,679)</b>	<b>\$ 12,453</b>
<b>SPECIAL &amp; UNUSUAL ITEMS</b>			
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Outdoor space heaters	\$ 758	-	758
Appraisal	4,500	-	4,500
<b>Total Special Expenses</b>	<b>5,258</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,258</b>
<b>NET EXCESS RECEIPTS/ (EXPENSES)</b>	<b>\$ (19,484)</b>	<b>\$ (26,679)</b>	<b>\$ (7,195)</b>

Contributions are above the budgeted amount due to several members paying their annual pledges in full earlier in 2021. Parking income is less than expected, but hopefully will increase in 2022. Building expenses are less than budgeted, but will increase as deferred maintenance expenses are incurred.

## Outreach & Other News



Thanks to all the donors who made the 2021 food drive for Spartan Open Pantry the best yet! Over 1,900 items were contributed. We couldn't have done it without the marvelous volunteers, headed by Joyce Powers, who collected, organized, and delivered it all. What a wonderful way to give to this very much needed effort at this special time.

Thanks also to Barbara North, Jim North, Clara Kelly, and the volunteers who transformed our building and Sanctuary with holiday decorations. We enjoyed the beauty and appreciate you and all your hard work. **SPECIAL NOTE:** Volunteers are needed on Saturday, Jan. 8th at 9:30 to help remove the decorations and store them for next Christmas. Can you lend a hand? Please contact Barbara North: woodnotes2004@yahoo.com

## Join us Online for Services and Fellowship

On Sundays at 11:00am, our service is broadcast live at these sites:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCar8ZVg434DF1uTtL86JEhg> (YouTube)

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

PCoC is now on Meetup.com; go to [Meetup.com/Presbyterian-Church-of-the-Covenant](https://www.meetup.com/Presbyterian-Church-of-the-Covenant)



SCAN ME

## Sunday Service Information, January 2022

### January 2:

**Host:** Ralph Cauthen  
**Music:** David Cray  
**Guest Speaker:** Ralph Cauthen  
**Ushers:** TBA

### January 16:

**Host:** Ralph Cauthen  
**Music:** Elaine Penn & Dave Fox  
**Guest Speaker:** Lynice Pinkard  
**Ushers:** Nancy Schaefer, Lem Cox

### January 30:

**Host:** Ralph Cauthen  
**Guest Speaker:** Katie Todd/Ukirk  
**Music:** Nancy Pitkin  
**Ushers:** TBA

### January 9:

**Host:** Ralph Cauthen  
**Music:** Hope & Honor An Carter Davis  
**Guest Speaker:** Lynice Pinkard  
**Ushers:** Celia & Frank Starling

### January 23:

**Host:** Ralph Cauthen  
**Music:** Doug Baker  
**Guest Speaker:** Lynice Pinkard  
**Ushers:** Clara Kelly, Barry Barber

## Presbyterian Church of the Covenant

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