

June 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:  
Also see Page 4 for  
livestream sites

**Important Dates ...**

**Office hours:**

Rev. Sandlin M-Th., 9-3

Kate Baird ,M-F, 9-3

June 6: Higher Ground,  
10:00am , 210 E. Bessemer

June : In\*Spire Mediation Mtg.  
& Brown Bag Lunch, 12pm

June 10: Out of The Garden  
Project

June 12: Pennies 4 Hunger

June 14: Session Meeting,  
6:00pm, via Zoom

June 17: FaithAction Regis-  
tration Event

June 19: Happy Father's Day!

June 21: Summer Solstice

June 25: Monthly Work Day:  
9:30am—12:00pm

*Presbyterian Church of the Covenant*



The Covenant Compendium

***A Letter from Reverend Sandlin***

Hello PCoC family!

As we continue to navigate our way out of COVID, I wanted to give you a few updates on what we are working on, going forward.

For the moment, in-person attendance is low on Sundays. It would seem that lots of folks are enjoying the convenience of the online service and/or are continuing to practice precaution as national cases continue to slowly trend upward. That said, the current plans are to continue with one Sunday service in the current “blended” and abbreviated format. We will also continue to live broadcast it. As our attendance begins to increase, we will readdress our needs.

Additionally, the Session has voted to allow Wednesday night dinners to resume. Along with that, we will also be planning some congregational meals on Sundays from time to time. These are all in their beginning stages, but we will keep you updated as we have the dates for each.

Finally, thank you all for your continued support throughout COVID and as we try to get things back to the “new normal.” You are amazing!

PEACE!

Mark

## ***Sunday Service Information, June 2022***

### **June 5:**

**Music:** Josh Watson  
**Ushers:** Celia & Frank Starling

### **June 12:**

**Music:** Carol Rauch  
**Ushers:** Nancy Schaefer, Lem Cox

### **June 19:     *Father's Day***

**Music:** Joel Landau  
**Ushers:** Clara Kelly, Barry Barber

### **June 26:**

**Music:** Doug Baker  
**Ushers:** Celia & Frank Starling

## ***Session Meeting Minutes, May 10, 2022***

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Building Open/COVID Review:** June Session meeting will be in person with masking.

### **Covid task force recommendations to the Session were approved:**

- \*resume Wednesday night dinners per the Fellowship and Outreach Committees
- \*resume 12-Step and other meetings, if not already meeting
- \*remove time restrictions on meetings
- \*because of the wave of variants, continue to require masks in meetings, worship services

**Homeless persons policy:** A draft policy was discussed; Task Force will present revisions in two months.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mark will soon present a detailed report on his Sabbatical; the time off was needed for reflection on how best to serve the congregation and prevent burn out. He is also working on a book of Progressive Christian prayers.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Resource Committee:** contributions are up, as is the gas bill.

**Worship:** The committee will meet soon to discuss issues dormant during the shutdown.

**Spiritual Formation:** The Sunday Study group is still reading "Life Lessons" by Kubler-Ross and Kessler.

**Grounds:** Michael Thompson is mowing, and parking lot re-painting continues.

**Communications:** Survey results available to the congregation in the June newsletter.

**Fellowship:** Not ready for Wednesday night suppers yet; when they resume, the Committee cannot handle them by itself.

**Outreach:** Seeking community partners to help with the June FaithAction registration drive.

**Personnel:** Sexton position still open. Staff evaluations are ongoing.

Congregational care report for April: 13 providers served 10 members, attendees, with visits, phone calls. As of May 1<sup>st</sup>, Fred Wallace took over as coordinator.

## ***News From The Fellowship Committee***

Many thanks to Vance Arnold, who is taking leadership in getting the Wednesday night fellowship dinner going again. He has already talked with a number of people to begin making plans. Please call him if you have suggestions or ideas: (336) 272-5736.

Discussion is beginning regarding a churchwide fellowship lunch on Sunday, July 3rd, following the Sunday Service. Joy Saleeby and Joyce Powers are leading the planning; please email Joyce with any suggestions or to volunteer to assist: jkpowers42@gmail.com

## ***Results of PCoC Congregational Building Survey***

The following results are based on 30 returned surveys. 4 respondents occasionally attend or listen online; all others attend often or are members.

Top two "Yes" votes:

1. 88% are for selling the building with the agreement for PCoC to rent space.
2. 79% are for gifting the church to a non-profit with the agreement we rent space.

Top two "No" votes:

1. 75% are against selling the building and buying another facility
2. 75% are against merging with another church at another location

More/Less likely votes:

1. 12 people will stay if we move, but 6 are less likely to stay
2. 12 people will stay if there is a merge; 8 are less likely to stay; 1 commented that they will stay only if we remain in the church building.

SYNOPSIS OF COMMENTARIES:

Worst case scenario: Building sale & rent another facility; 1 thought it would lessen the stress.

Best case scenario: Sell the building & rent space in it, although that ability was questioned.

Selling the building & purchasing another facility was considered unfeasible by all but 2.

Gifting the church to a non-profit that allows PCoC to rent space was a good second option; 1 considered it risky.

Merging with another church in another location or in our current location raised issues regarding Progressive versus Traditional, potentially changing our identity. 1 thought it might give new energy & help with expenses, if compatible. 1 would stay only if we remain Progressive. 1 asked if we would continue to nurture & support each other.

Most doubted the feasibility of PCoC increasing revenue or continuing minimal maintenance. 2 suggested part-time staff/minister.

In general, a full congregational meeting was suggested for brainstorming, considering new ideas, & learning distribution of funds from building sale. The highest priorities were to keep the congregation together & to stay in the building.

## ***Celebration of Life for David (Mitch) Mitcham***

You are invited to join in celebrating Mitch/David's life Saturday, July 9, 2022, 10–11:30 am at Jamestown Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 403 East Main Street, Jamestown, NC. This will be a time of sharing memories, love, laughter, tears, and the many gifts he brought to our lives. If you plan to attend, please RSVP, as seating is limited to 120. If you would like to speak and share your memories, please let Judy know: contact Judy at (336)209-1864 or [jmitcham@gmail.com](mailto:jmitcham@gmail.com)

## ***FaithAction Intl. ID Drive at PCoC***

On Friday, June 17, Faith Action International House will conduct an ID Drive at PCoC. They will set up in the Fellowship Hall, which has been reserved for the entire day. If you are interested in being a host for this event, there will be a sign up sheet in the back of the Sanctuary. The Outreach Committee will be providing lunch for their staff and volunteers.

## Join us Online for Services and Fellowship

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

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

<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>



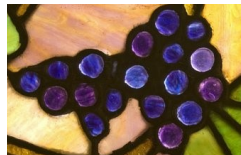
SCAN ME

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



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