

November 2023

Presbyterian Church of the Covenant



COVENANT

Inclusive, Open-Minded and Home for Your Soul.

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Sunday Morning Schedule
11:00am in the Sanctuary

See Page 4 for
livestream sites

Important Dates ...

2023 Office hours:

Rev. Dr. Sandlin:
M appt. only
W, Th., 9-3
Kate Baird: M-F, 9-3

Nov. 1: PEO Luncheon,
Fellowship Hall , 12:00pm

Nov. 5: TIME CHANGE! Fall
back & snooze an hour!

Nov. 7: InSpire Meditation
Group Meeting & Lunch,
12:00pm

Nov. 10: Out of the Garden
Project

Nov. 10: Rumi by Candle-
light concert, 7:30pm,
Sanctuary

Nov. 12: Pennies 4
Hunger Collection

Nov. 14: Session Mtg.,
6:00pm, Fellowship Hall

Nov. 15: Sierra Club, 6-
8pm, Fellowship Hall

Nov. 23: Thanksgiving; of-
fice closed 11/23 & 11/24

Nov. 25: Work Day, 9:30am,
Fellowship Hall



The Covenant Compendium

A Letter from Reverend Sandlin

Hello PCoC Family!

As we move from the month that houses Halloween into the month of Thanksgiving, I couldn't help but recall these words from one of the all time great horror writers, Stephen King:

“Giving isn't about the receiver or the gift but the giver. It's for the giver. One doesn't open one's wallet to improve the world, although it's nice when that happens; one does it to improve one's self. I give because it's the only concrete way I have of saying that I'm glad to be alive and I can earn my daily bread doing what I love. Giving is a way of taking the focus off the money we make and putting it back where it belongs—on the lives we lead, the families we raise, the communities that nurture us.

“A life of giving—not just money, but time and spirit—repays. It helps us remember that we may be going out broke, but right now we're doing O.K. Right now we have the power to do great good for others and for ourselves.

“So I ask you to begin giving, and to continue as you began. I think you'll find in the end that you got far more than you ever had, and did more good than you ever dreamed.”

One of the ways I redeem the historical horrors of Thanksgiving is by, rather than making it about giving thanks for my abundance, making it about showing my thankfulness by giving – making it a season of giving as opposed to the Pilgrim's historical reality of taking. Small gifts here and there. Random acts of kindness to strangers. It makes for a season that's more joyous than I can explain.

So, like Mr. King, I invite you to make November a season of giving; “I think you'll find in the end that you got far more than you ever had...”.

Peace!

Mark

Sunday Service Information, November 2023

November 5: *Time Change! Fall Back!*

Music: Stephanie Lindley
Ushers: Nancy Schaefer, Lem Cox



November 19: *Special Musical Service!*

Music: Stephanie Lindley & Guests!
Ushers: Ann Finch, Charlie Finch

November 12: *Pennies 4 Hunger*

Music: Stephanie Lindley
Ushers: Clara Kelly, Barry Barber

November 26:

Music: Stephanie Lindley
Ushers: Celia Starling, Frank Starling

Session Meeting Minutes, October 10, 2023

OLD BUSINESS

Revising Update: The committee is preparing a counteroffer to Flywheel's LOI.

Stewardship luncheon: Luncheon held Oct. 15th.

NEW BUSINESS:

Elder Nominating Committee: Session class of 2023 will provide names of potential candidates for class of 2026 to the Elder Nominating Committee, which will present nominees for a congregational vote.

Session meeting day change: Mark's schedule necessitates changing Session meeting days to Wednesdays as of January 2024. The session approved the change by unanimous vote.

Clerk's Presbytery Clerks meeting report: David reported on the recent meeting of Session Clerks, led by Presbytery Clerk David Vaughan. The main suggestion was that each Session have outside auditors make its financial statement audits, when the church has enough money to warrant such cost.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Resource Committee: The 2024 budget is challenging since we may face unanticipated costs. All committees have been asked to provide an estimate of potential financial needs in 2024.

Worship: Meeting highlights:

- On Sunday, Dec. 24th, Christmas Eve, we'll have one service at 5 PM
- Communion will be quarterly & at other designated dates, for a total of 7 times a year
- After the building renovation, we anticipate flexible seating arrangements for services.

Spiritual Formation: The online Zoom class will next read "The Bible with and without Jesus" by Amy-Jill Levine and Marc Brettler.

Buildings and Grounds: We are adjusting the heating and cooling needs as fall temperatures vary. Repairs are in progress due to vandalism of the grand piano.

Grounds: Mowing is winding down and leaf raking underway. We had 2 September workdays to prepare for the Sept. 30th Day of Remembrance.

Interior: The Preservation Committee members now have a checklist to survey building contents for determination of future disposition of church property.

Communications: New brochures are available at several locations in the church. Mark gave out copies at the recent Pride festival downtown.

Fellowship: The Stewardship Luncheon was well-attended. We're planning ways to keep fellowship going when we are out of the present building.

Outreach: Funds raised for the CROP walk exceeded our collection goals. We continue to support the Out of The Garden Project. Our Pennies for Hunger monthly campaigns continue. In November, we'll provide a lunch in November for a Habitat for Humanity work crew. In December, we'll collect donations for the UNCG Spartan Open Pantry.

Rumi by Candlelight Concert on Friday, Nov. 10th

Each year, this talented collective of creatives chooses Favorite Rumi poems and composes original music to accompany them. They create beautiful and flowing performances, presented in a calm, candlelit space. We've been honored to host their concerts for many years now; this year's concert will feature selections from their new CD, "The Music We Are". Tickets and CDs will be on sale at the doors, opening at 7:00pm, concert at 7:30pm.



In*Spire Meditation Gathering & Brown Bag Lunch on Nov. 7th

Our meditation group meets weekly on Tuesdays at noon in the Sanctuary for a half hour meditation, and the first Tuesday of the month we follow it up with a brown bag lunch in the Fellowship Hall. It's a gathering of inspiration and fellowship and everyone is welcome.

CROP Walk Update



Thanks to your contributions, we raised over \$1,900 for the annual CROP Walk of Greater Greensboro, led by our team of volunteer walkers: Clara Kelly, Pat Kelly, Nancy Schaefer, and Beth Latture. We're honored by your generous donations, which propelled us over our goal donation amount.

Special Musical Guests This Month

Music Director Stephanie Lindley always brings us special music, and this month she's adding amazing guest musicians to the mix, on Nov. 5th and Nov. 19th, at our Sunday service. Don't miss these special musical celebrations!

Outreach, Fellowship, & Other News

Our monthly volunteer day at Out of The Garden Project is Friday, Nov. 10th. Contact Charlie Finch to volunteer: tarheelcolonel@gmail.com. We're still collecting plastic grocery bags for Vandalia Presbyterian's Food Pantry in the box at the rear of the Sanctuary. Our monthly Pennies 4 Hunger donation collection is on Sunday, Nov. 12th. We'll begin collecting nonperishable foods for the UCG Spartan Open Pantry on Saturday, Dec. 2nd in the main parking lot. Free candy canes for donors!

Monthly Work Day on November 25th

The monthly work day will be Saturday, November 25th. Please volunteer to assist with gardening or clean-up efforts inside and outside, 9:30am—12:00pm. Coffee and a chore list will be in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Clara Kelly to volunteer: clerkelly@gmail.com

Holiday Decorating & Lunch on December 1st

PCoC elves, volunteer to usher in the holiday season by helping decorate the building with us on FRIDAY, Dec. 1st, time to be announced soon. A free lunch will be provided to all, to make it even more fun! If you can come, please RSVP to the church office by Monday, Nov. 27th by phone or email (pcoc2010@gmail) so we can get a lunch head count.

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/>

<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>

And see us on Meetup.com at:
[Meetup.com/Presbyterian-Church-of-the-Covenant](https://www.meetup.com/Presbyterian-Church-of-the-Covenant)



SCAN ME



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Check us out online!
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