

February 2024



Presbyterian Church of the Covenant



The Covenant Compendium

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Sunday Morning Schedule
11:00am in the Sanctuary

See Page 4 for
livestream sites

Important Dates ...

2024 Office hours:

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

Feb. 3: Work Day, 9:30am,
Fellowship Hall

Feb. 6: In*Spire Meditation
meeting & brown bag
lunch to follow

Feb. 9: Out of the Garden
Project

Feb. 11: Unity, Breakfast
Church

Feb. 11: Pennies 4
Hunger Collection

Feb. 13: Sierra Club, Parlor

Feb. 13: Session Mtg.,
6:00pm, Fellowship Hall

Feb. 17, P2P Liaison Mtg.,
Parlor, 10:00am

Feb. 18: Sunday Fellow-
ship Brunch, 12:00pm,
Fellowship Hall

Feb. 19: Presidents Day,
Federal Holiday

A Letter from Reverend Sandlin

Hello PCoC family!

Revisioning can be unnerving. RE-visioning implies seeing a new future, a new way of doing things, and even new opportunities. While that can be exciting to think about, it also implies letting go of the way things once were. It means that as you are revisioning, the future isn't always as crystal clear as most of us might prefer it to be. Like I said, revisioning can be a bit unnerving.

As I have mentioned many times before, the great news is that we have wonderful leadership teams in our Session and our Revisioning Committee. And, we have each other. In times like this, that's so important and valuable that I can't underscore it enough!

Sometimes when you let go of how things once were and look into a somewhat unknown future, it's helpful to be focused and aware of the here and now. I have such an opportunity for you. Every day, in the here and now, our church helps those who are in need. It might be something like a small bill or, more frequently, someone looking for their next meal. The fund that lets us do that, the Pastor's Fund, isn't a budgeted item and it is currently running very low. Our ability to do the work of the Church and help folk is predicated fully on your generous donations.

So, I'm asking you to do something fully rooted in the here and now. If you are able, please consider making a donation to the Pastor's Fund and help us help those in need. It's a beautiful way of being Church even as we revision what our church will be.

PEACE!

Mark

Sunday Service Information, February 2024

February 4:

Music: Stephanie Lindley
Usher: Cecelia Starling

February 18: *Fellowship Lunch*

Music: Stephanie Lindley
Ushers: Clara Kelly

February 11: *Pennies 4 Hunger*

Music: Stephanie Lindley
Usher: Nancy Schaefer, Lem Cox

February 25:

Music: Stephanie Lindley
Usher: Celia Starling



Session Meeting Minutes, January 10, 2024

OLD BUSINESS

Revisioning Update/Building Sale: Committee awaiting response to revised Letter of Intent from prospective purchaser.

Elder Nominating Committee: A committee is in place, expect to complete the process in early February.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Resource Committee: 2023 summary reviewed; about as expected. Reserves continue to dwindle!

Spiritual Formation: Sunday Study group continues to meet on Zoom and is reading *The Bible with and without Jesus*

Buildings and Grounds: Working on balancing heat issues between the buildings; Mark Cable working on repairs to-do list. **Grounds:** Leaf collection complete. The next work day is on February 3rd.

Interior: Thanks to Charlie Finch and Jeff White for taking down the window boxes. The Preservation Committee is about to begin working on an inventory of church property to identify what items to keep and what to dispose of.

Fellowship: First congregation meal of the year was on Sunday, January 21st. Plans are underway for February and March lunches, and for Easter. Working on congregation communications plans once we leave this location.

Outreach: We delivered 2 truckloads of donations to the new SOP site on the UNCG campus and toured the impressive facilities. Still collecting grocery bags for the Vandalia Presbyterian food kitchen. We volunteer monthly at the Out of the Garden Project. We held a letter writing campaign at the January congregational luncheon to write congresspeople regarding support for food projects.

Congregational Care: In December, 7 providers made 76 contacts.

Third Sunday Fellowship Meals

More than 30 people shared our first fellowship meal on January 21st. Thanks to Joy Saleeby, Joyce Powers, Charlene Holler, and all others who lent a helping hand. In this year of anticipated change, it seems important to do whatever possible to strengthen a close fellowship. Monthly fellowship meals seemed a good place to begin, so the third Sunday of each month was chosen. Suggestions for fellowship are welcome. Fellowship Committee members are Joy Saleeby and Ralph Cauthen, co-chairs; Joyce Powers, Charlene Holler, Ann Finch (weddings and funerals), Jim North, and Marcia Rhodes, with the assistance of Kate Baird. Comments are welcome.

Monthly Work Day on Saturday, February 3rd

Donate a morning of your time, 9:30am to 12:00pm, to help us keep the building and grounds in top condition and attractive to our congregation, tenants, and visitors. Meet in the Fellowship Hall (coffee provided!) to check the monthly chore list; could be indoors, outdoors (weather permitting), and you go at your own pace according to your abilities. Volunteers always welcome! Contact Clara Kelly for more information or to volunteer: clerkelly@gmail.com

New Book Study Begins February 4th

The Sunday Book Study group will begin reading and discussing a new book on Sunday, Feb. 4th, via Zoom at 9:15am. The new book will be "Tomorrow's God", by Neale Donald Walsch. Everyone is invited to join the group, even if you can't participate every week. Please contact Ann Finch to join the group and get added to the email list for the Zoom calls: ann.mcintosh.finch@gmail.com.

In*Spire Meditation February 6th Meeting and Brown Bag Lunch

Join our mediation group at Noon on Feb. 6th in the Sanctuary for a guided 20 minute meditation, followed by a brown bag lunch gathering in the Fellowship Hall. Refreshment for the spirit and the body!

News, Notes, Events, & Outreaches

The Outreach Committee wants to hear from YOU! What initiatives are you interested in seeing PCoC undertake through outreach in 2024: What projects would you get involved in? We are a Hunger Action Congregation and focus a lot of our efforts there, but know that there are other needs and issues. Please share your ideas with us! A survey will be available on the back table in the Sanctuary-please take one, fill it out, and return it to the designated box. Thanks in advance for your participation! Ongoing monthly outreaches: donate plastic grocery bags for Vandalia Presbyterian's food pantry; there's a donation box at the back of the Sanctuary. PCoC volunteer day at Out of The Garden Project is Feb. 9th. Contact Charlie Finch: tarheelcolonel@gmail.com. On Feb. 11th, we collect donations for to the PCUSA hunger initiative, Pennies for Hunger. Please designate P4H on the memo line of your checks; cash contributions are also welcome.

Reminder: Inclement Weather Procedures

Service cancellations due to inclement weather will be announced via email, posted on our Facebook site, and will be listed on WFMY (Channel 2, CBS) and WXII (Channel 12, NBC). If county schools are closed, the church office will likely be closed; email the office or leave a voicemail message.

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)

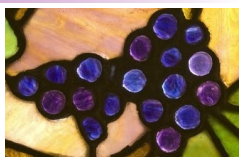


SCAN ME



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Check us out online!
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