

July 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

July 3: PEO mtg., 12 –4

July 4: Independence Day!

July 10: Session Mtg.,
6:00pm, Fellowship Hall

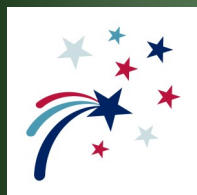
July 12: Out of The Garden
Project, 2:00pm

July 14: Pennies 4
Hunger Collection

July 15: Outreach Comm.
Mtg., 2:00pm; Fellowship
Comm. Mtg., 3:00pm

July 21: Fellowship Lunch,
12:00pm

July 27: Work Day, 9:30am,
Fellowship Hall



A Letter from Reverend Sandlin

Hello PCoC Family!

Many of you have heard me talk about how much I appreciate the work of Dr. Bart Ehrman, who is an American New Testament professor and scholar at UNC – Chapel Hill. If you haven't read his works, I cannot recommend him highly enough.

Dr. Ehrman has amassed quite a following on social media (and with good reason). A few weeks ago, he shared a meme that said, "Pastors are, as a rule, reluctant to teach what they learned about the Bible in seminary." Not so surprisingly, hundreds of people replied who essentially agreed with his observation.

I, however, was fortunate enough to be able to share that meme saying, "I'm am thankful to be at a church where I actually do get to talk about what I learned and continue to learn. As a matter of a fact, most of the congregation actually expects me to."

A couple of you even commented echoing the fact that that was the reality here at PCoC.

So this note is to say, "Thank you." Thank you for creating that kind of space. Thank you for being open-minded enough that we can all have important conversations about sacred and other important topics. Remember, in the book of Psalms, Wisdom is something in which God delights daily. I, for one, believe when we, too, delight in Wisdom, we grow closer to God.

PEACE!

Mark

Sunday Service Information, July 2024

July 7:

Music: Stephanie Lindley
Usher: Clara Kelly

July 14: *Pennies 4 Hunger*

Music: Stephanie Lindley
Usher: Celia Starling

July 21:

Music: Stephanie Lindley
Ushers: Nancy Schaefer

July 28:

Music: Stephanie Lindley, David M. Cray
Usher: Clara Kelly

Session Meeting Minutes, June 12th, 2024

OLD BUSINESS

Revisioning Update/offer on buildings: Flywheel is in process of getting a LOI to present to church. Revisioning Committee is trying to speed up the process. Alternate plan is still in place.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Resource Committee: Financial statement reviewed; reserves are dwindling. The Stewardship Luncheon will now be on October 20, 2024.

Spiritual Formation: Sunday Study group finishing current book. Discussed changing back to meeting in person. Mark pointed out that it is possible to have hybrid meetings, both Zoom and in person. Mark is willing to facilitate.

Buildings and Grounds: Recent vandalism by person officially unknown (although a likely suspect is known) including broken windows. Repairs are ongoing.

Interior: Mark mentioned resumption of efforts by the Church Furnishing committee. Thanks to the efforts of David Johnson and Roxanna Wennberg, about 3/4 of the toys, etc., in the playroom have found new homes.

Fellowship: Fellowship Dinner on 30 June with church providing hot dogs and hamburgers; congregants asked to bring sides and desserts. The Cauthens and the Norths are looking to have an ongoing relationship between the Islamic community and PCoC. Beth is planning to have a Soul Collage workshop in September.

Outreach: Out of The Garden Project volunteers still serve each month. Pennies for Hunger raised \$333. We are still assisting the Vandalia Food Pantry. We provided lunch for Habitat for Humanity crews in May and will again in September. \$350 raised by congregation for Heifer project; that amount was matched by the committee to total \$700, which bought a barnyard full of animals. In July we'll start to collect school supplies for Foust Elementary for delivery in August. We're getting a representative of Spartan Open Pantry to make a presentation to the congregation.

Personnel: The music director now has a signed contract with the church.

Presbytery meeting: Nancy attended the May meeting and her report was sent separately to Session members. Big surprise from this was that Vandalia Presbyterian Church is selling its property.

Friday Morning Coffee Group

Join us every (or any!) Friday morning, 9:00—noonish (drop by any time) for coffee, snacks, conversation and fellowship. We meet at the Panera on Highwoods Blvd. off New Garden Road in Greensboro.

Outreach News

We're still collecting donations of plastic grocery bags for Vandalia Presbyterian's food pantry; a donation box is at the back of the Sanctuary.

PCoC volunteer day at Out of The Garden Project is July 12th. Contact Charlie Finch: tarheelcolonel@gmail.com.

On July 14th, we collect donations for the PCUSA hunger initiative, Pennies for Hunger Designate P4H on your checks; cash also welcome.

Interfaith Initiative

Recently we gathered for lunch with our Muslim friends to enjoy food and fellowship. Several years ago, some of our church community were involved with our Muslim friends in dinner groups.

We are trying to reestablish the Dinner Groups once again. Groups would be formed of four of our community members along with four members of the Muslim Community. These groups would decide when and where they would gather at one of their homes for a meal and fellowship. Hosting a meal would rotate among the members of each individual Dinner Group.

This is a wonderful opportunity to broaden our understanding of each others' journeys and to build meaningful relationships. If you have an interest in this wonderful opportunity of friendship and would like to be a part of a dinner group, please call Jim North at (336) 643-0985 or email him at: jnorth5700@yahoo.com, or email the church office at: pcoc2010@gmail.com

No In*Spire Meditation in July

Our meditation group will take the month of July off, but will return in August.

Monthly Work Day on Saturday, July 29th

Volunteers needed to donate a morning of your time, 9:30am to 12:00pm! Help us keep the building and grounds in top condition and attractive. Meet in the Fellowship Hall (coffee provided!) to check the monthly chore list; do what you can. Contact Clara Kelly: clerkelly@gmail.com

Soul Collage to Be Held in September

The Soul Collage event will be on Sunday, Sept. 15th at 1:00pm in the Fellowship Hall, immediately following the monthly Fellowship Lunch. Details will be in the August newsletter.

Supply List for Foust Elementary School—Donate!

2nd Grade

1 pack pencils
2 1-subject notebooks
1 pack glue sticks
1 pair kids' scissors
1 pack dry erase markers
1 pack index cards
1 dry erase board (optional)
1 box 16/24 ct. crayons

3rd Grade

1 pack pencils
1 pack erasers
1 box 16/24 ct. crayons
1 pack dry erase markers
1 dry erase board
1 pack glue sticks
1 pair kids' scissors
1 pack index cards
4 1-subject notebooks

4th Grade

1 pack pencils
1 pack erasers
1 box 16/24 ct. crayons
1 pack dry erase markers
1 dry erase board
1 pack glue sticks
1 pair kids' scissors
1 pack index cards
4 1-subject notebooks
3 packet folders

5th Grade

1 pack pencils
1 pack loose-leaf paper
1 pack erasers
1 pack colored pencils
2 3-subject notebooks
4 folders, w/ or w/out prongs



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)

Check us out online! www.athinkingchurch.org

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SCAN ME