

August 2024



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

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

Aug. 7: PEO mtg., 12 –4

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

Aug. 9: Out of The Garden  
Project, 2:00pm

Aug. 11: Pennies 4  
Hunger Collection

Aug. 10: Outreach Comm.  
Mtg., 2:00pm; Fellowship  
Comm. Mtg., 3:00pm

Aug. 18: Ice Cream Social,  
12:00pm, Fellowship Hall

Aug. 31: Work Day,  
9:30am, Fellowship Hall



*Presbyterian Church of the Covenant*



***A Letter from Reverend Sandlin***

PCoC Family,

As I write this, the Revisioning Committee is expecting to receive a revised Letter of Intent (LOI) from the potential purchasers of our building within the next 24 hours. We are hopefully anticipating that they will be amenable to the few changes we have suggested. While a LOI is a nonbinding document, it does outline the general agreement that can be expected in the contract, which we anticipate receiving within 30 days of signing the LOI.

There are still several key events that have to happen to finalize the sale, including rezoning, approval by the state Attorney General’s office, and a vote by the Presbytery, but we believe they can all be managed well. The bigger question is the timing of how long we will be in the building. We don’t yet have an answer to that question, but if I had to venture a guess, I assume we will be in the building at least through the end of the year.

The most important part of all of this is you. Your support throughout this long and, at times, complicated process has been essential. So, thank you! Our spiritual community is the reason we are doing all of this. We have something special and this is the way we get to move forward together. So, again, thank you for all the support you give to help make it happen for all of us!

PEACE!

Mark

## Sunday Service Information, August 2024

### August 4:

Music: Stephanie Lindley  
Usher: Clara Kelly

### August 11: *Pennies 4 Hunger*

Music: Stephanie Lindley  
Usher: Celia Starling

### August 18: *Ice Cream Social*

Music: Stephanie Lindley, David M. Cray  
Ushers: Nancy Schaefer

### August 25:

Music: Stephanie Lindley  
Usher: Clara Kelly

## Session Meeting Minutes, July 17th, 2024

### NEW BUSINESS

**Film Project Request:** PCoC has been approached by a group of recent UNCG graduates who want to make a short film in the building. Decision that we are open to the project but need more details. Mitch will supply this information at the next Session meeting.

**Cooperation with Unity:** Unity wants to bring a well-known drag queen “Flamy Grant”, to the church for a concert. We are interested in partnering with Unity for this, awaiting more details.

### OLD BUSINESS

**Revisioning Update/offer on buildings:** Flywheel has presented a new letter of intent to PCoC regarding the building purchase. The Revisioning Committee met after church on July 21st to review and revise it, and plan to meet with the Session after the service on 28 July, if we’ve received a response from Flywheel by then. Session plans for a called meeting on 28 July. Nancy sent the Letter of Intent to Session members.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Resource Committee:** We are behind in contributions but also in expenses.

**Spiritual Formation:** Sunday Study Group has started reading “An Old Preacher’s Manifesto” by Jim Dollar, found on his website, [jimwdollar.com](http://jimwdollar.com).

#### **Buildings and Grounds:**

**Buildings:** Broken windows have been repaired. A downspout also is being repaired.

**Grounds:** Michael is mowing every other week; Clara trims in between. Through pressure from numerous parties, the City has decided to provide churches with the 95 gal. trash cans for yard waste.

**Interior:** When the contract to sell the building is signed, the Committee will start to work on clearing out the church’s furnishings; estimate will take 2 months to do so.

**Fellowship:** Fellowship luncheon held Sunday, 21 July. We have invited Unity to the August Ice Cream Social. In August the committee will meet to plan for future fellowship when the congregation is out of the church building.

**Outreach:** Out of the Garden and Vandalia had PCoC volunteers assisting in July. We are collecting school supplies for Foust school to be delivered in August; head of Spartan Open Pantry will present to congregation on 28 July; Heifer program has provided a barnyard full of animals to third world people. Committee voted to provide \$500 to the Green for Greens project with two local farmers’ markets.

**Personnel:** Have signed contract from Stephanie for til end of December 2024.

**Congregational Care report:** June saw 59 contacts by 8 providers.

Next Presbytery meeting is on 06 August; both Mitch and Margaret may attend.

## ***Financial News***

Through the end of June the church received nearly \$66,750 in contributions as well as \$39,500 in rent income and \$725 in other income. These collections are less than what was budgeted by over \$10,500. Operating expenses totaled \$122,500 which is a little over \$9,000 less than what was expected. This results in an operating loss of approximately \$15,545 for the first six months of 2024. This operating deficit is a little more than what was expected.

Operating expenses include \$47,950 for building expenses, \$57,880 for payroll expenses, \$7,330 for the music program and \$9,340 in other committee expenses. The church has a little over \$65,600 in reserves.

Farrell Scholarship: Due to scarcity of funds, no scholarships will be awarded this year.

## ***Outreach News***

Our recent fund drive for donations for Heifer International was a great success. Our donations were matched by a HI Community Organization Fund, so, thanks to your generosity, we were able to provide the following for families in need : a sheep, a pig, a goat, a water buffalo, honeybees, and a flock of chicks.

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 volunteers at Out of The Garden Project on Aug. 9th. Contact Charlie Finch: tarheelcolonel@gmail.com.

On Aug.11th, we collect donations for the PCUSA hunger initiative, Pennies for Hunger Designate P4H on your checks; cash also welcome.

The final day to donate school supplies for Foust Elementary is Sunday, Aug. 4th. (See supply list on p. 4). Items still needed: scissors, flat erasers, pencil erasers or anything else on the list.

## ***Monthly Work Day on Saturday, August 31st***

Volunteers, 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 to see the monthly chore list. Email Clara Kelly: clerkelly@gmail.com

## ***Soul Collage to Be Held in September***

The Soul Collage event will be on Sunday, Sept. 15th at 1:30pm in the Fellowship Hall, immediately following the monthly Fellowship Lunch. Cost is \$15, with some funds collected to be donated to UNCG's Spartan Open Pantry. Please bring old magazines for collaging; a flyer will soon be available in the sanctuary. For more information on Soul Collage, visit the website at: <https://soulcollage.com/about/>

## Supply List for Foust Elementary – Deadline Aug. 4th!

### 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](http://www.athinkingchurch.org)

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