

August 2025



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 P. 4 for livestream

2025 Office hours:

Rev. Dr. Sandlin:  
M appt. only; W, Th., 9-3

Kate Baird: M, W, Th, 9-3

8/08: Out of the Garden  
Project, 3:00pm

8/10: Pennies 4 Hunger  
Collection

8/12: Sierra Club, 6:00pm,  
Fellowship Hall

8/18: Outreach Comm.  
Mtg., 2:00pm; Fellowship  
Comm. Mtg., 3:00pm

8/19: UNCG Fall Classes  
Begin

8/23: Monthly Work Day

8/24: Ice Cream Social!



*Presbyterian Church of the Covenant*



The Covenant Compendium

***A Letter from Reverend Sandlin***

Hi, PCoC family!

I'm excited to share that the process of selling our building is moving along swiftly. Since hiring a commercial real estate agent about a month ago, we've had steady interest, including two local churches that have each toured the space twice. Both have now submitted offers to purchase the property (one a Letter of Intent and the other a Purchase Offer). We're entering negotiations to discern the best path forward.

Meanwhile, the team working on what to do with our Belongings and furnishings (the Preservation Committee) has begun their important task – and with things moving a bit faster than expected, we'll need to pick up the pace together.

This is a season of transition, yes, but it's also a season of opportunity. We are not simply letting go of a building – we are stepping forward in faith, trusting that what comes next will open new doors for ministry, connection, and growth.

I remain hopeful and deeply grateful for the spirit of care and collaboration guiding us through.

PEACE!

Mark

## ***Sunday Service Information, August 2025***

### **August 3:**

Music: Stephanie Lindley  
Usher: Celia Starling

### **August 17:**

Music: Stephanie Lindley  
Usher: Clara Kelly  
Usher: Celia Starling

### **August 31:**

Music: Stephanie Lindley

### **August 10: *Pennies 4 Hunger***

Music: Stephanie Lindley  
Usher: Nancy Schaefer

### **August 24: *Ice Cream Social***

Music: Stephanie Lindley



## ***Financial News***

Through the end of June the church received nearly \$75,900 in contributions as well as \$40,150 in rent income and \$7,400 in other income, which includes a \$4,000 bequest. These collections are more than what was budgeted by over \$13,600.

Operating expenses totaled \$130,650, which is a little over \$4,650 less than what was expected. This results in an operating loss of only \$5,650 for the first six months of 2025. This operating deficit is much less than anticipated. Operating expenses include \$58,500 for building expenses, \$53,360 for payroll expenses, \$6,760 for the music program and \$9,030 in other expenses.

The church has a little over \$68,660 in reserves. Anticipated costs to repair the air conditioning system are expected to be in excess of \$10,000.

## ***August is Ice Cream Social Month!***

Are you ready to scream for ice cream? Join us in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, August 24th right after the 11:00am Sunday Service for an ice cream sundae bar, complete with drinks, cookies, and other treats. There's a sign-up sheet on the back table in the Sanctuary for items needed.

## ***Other Committee News***

The Outreach committee has concluded another successful donation drive for contributions of school supplies for Foust Elementary School. Supplies will be delivered during the week of August 18th. Many items on the list were donated, with loads and loads of pencils topping the chart. Many thanks to everyone who so generously gave and especially to Joyce Powers and Charlene Holler for spearheading this effort and delivering all the supplies.

## ***Monthly Work Day on Saturday, August 23rd***

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](mailto:clerkelly@gmail.com)

## ***Session Meeting Minutes, July 9th, 2025***

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Revisioning Update/offer on buildings:** We are listed online through the Foundry, with Ira as local realtor. Interest in the building has increased with about a visit a week from interested parties.

The **Preservation Committee** met and are now inventorying building contents.

**PASTOR'S UPDATE:** Mark 's recent activities include counseling a couple for a wedding in August; counseling an individual; attending the No Kings rally; escort at local abortion clinic; mentoring a local Presbyterian pastor; doing walk throughs for interested potential buyers; going to Asheville and Charlotte for Progressive Christianity consulting; working on providing social media content about the church; doing a ministry at a local bar; working on his new book which will be based on his current sermons.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Resource Committee:** Unity has terminated its tenancy effective August 1<sup>st</sup>. We are soliciting applications for the Farrell scholarship.

**Spiritual Formation/Worship/Music:** Sunday Study Group continues on Zoom, reading Rohr's *Falling Upward*.

**Buildings and Grounds:** Still working on repairing the chiller; Mark Cable continuing with leak repairs.

**Interior:** Preservation Committee now working, 9 members, who will inventory the buildings room by room. Their findings and recommendations for disposition or retention will be reported to the Session.

**Communications:** We have a new standing sign by the main entrance to highlight the entrance location. Website work is underway.

**Fellowship:** Planning rest of covered dish luncheons for the year.

**Outreach:** Ann. July Newsletter has a list of the activities of the Committee. Will talk about use of budgeted funds later in the year. Will next work on Committee's portion of the website.

**Congregational Care:** The contact report for June was 46 contacts by 3 providers.

3 Session members will be unavailable in August at the time of the scheduled Session meeting, so it was voted to forego an August Session meeting, but that a Called meeting may be made if needed. The next meeting will be Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>.

## Monthly Building Sale Updates

The last Sunday of each month , we present a congregational update on the sale of our building.

## Book Study Group on Sundays on Zoom

The weekly Book Study group meets every Sunday morning via Zoom. The group is open to all and may be joined anytime. The current selection is: *Falling Upward* by Richard Rohr. If you would like to join, contact Ann Finch at [ann.mcintosh.finch@gmail.com](mailto:ann.mcintosh.finch@gmail.com)



## 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/thegodarticle>

And see us on Meetup.com at:

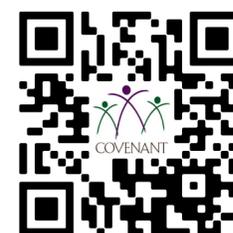
[Meetup.com/Presbyterian-Church-of-the-Covenant](https://www.meetup.com/Presbyterian-Church-of-the-Covenant)

Check us out online! [www.athinkingchurch.org](http://www.athinkingchurch.org)



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