

**November 2025**



**Presbyterian Church of the Covenant**



## The Covenant Compendium

### Inside this issue:

Services, Schedules, Events 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

11/5: PEO mtg., 11- 4

11/5—11/10: Rev. Sandlin  
out of office

11/9: Guest officiant, Rev.  
Katie Todd

11/9: Pennies 4 Hunger

11/10: Fire Alarm Test,  
11:00am

11/11: Veterans' Day, federal  
holiday

11/11: Sierra Club, 6:00pm,  
Fellowship Hall

11/12: Worship Comm.  
Mtg, 11:00am, Fship Hall

11/12: Session Mtg.,  
6:00pm, Fellowship Hall

11/14: Out of the Garden  
Project, 3:00pm

11/16: Fellowship Lunch,  
12pm, Fellowship Hall

11/22: Monthly Work Day,  
9:30am, Fellowship Hall

11/24: Outreach Comm.  
Mtg., 2:00pm

11/27: Happy Thanksgiving!  
Ofc. Closed 11/27 &  
11/28

11/29: CHNA Wreathmaking,  
8-6, Fellowship Hall

## *A Letter from Reverend Sandlin*

November always sneaks up on us. One minute, we're still finishing off the Halloween candy, and the next thing you know, we're lighting candles for the saints who shaped us, and then, all of a sudden, we're planning Thanksgiving. It's that strange in-between month – part remembering, part hoping, all of it with a side of pumpkin pie.

This year, it feels especially real for us. We're remembering where we've been as a church, holding onto the love and laughter that built this community. We're also looking ahead, wondering what new thing might be stirring among us. That mix of memory and hope; it's holy ground.

Faith has never been about having all the answers. It's about trusting that Love doesn't pack up and leave when life shifts. Love stays. Love shows up. Sometimes with a mug of hot cider in hand, sometimes with a hug, always reminding us that we're not in this alone.

So here's to this season of in-between. May we delight in finding out that hope's the quiet guest at every one of our gatherings, never loud, but always present.

Peace, Mark

## ***Sunday Service Information, November 2025***

### **November 2:**

Music: Stephanie Lindley  
Usher: Celia Starling

### **November 16: *Fellowship Luncheon***

Music: Stephanie Lindley  
Usher: Clara Kelly

### **November 30: *Holiday Decorating!***

Music: Stephanie Lindley  
Usher: Clara Kelly

### **November 9: *Pennies 4 Hunger***

Music: Stephanie Lindley  
Usher: Nancy Schaefer

### **November 23:**

Music: Stephanie Lindley  
Usher: Celia Starling



## ***CROP Walk 2025***

A big thank you to our CROP Walkers and to all of you who supported them in this year's event. Nancy Schaefer, Margaret Foley, Beth and Richard Latture, and Clara and Pat Kelly represented PCoC. The final tally for this year: \$2,600.00!!

## ***Nov. 16th Fellowship Lunch & Giveaway!***

Bring your favorite covered dish to the monthly Fellowship Lunch! Join the fellowship and help build our faith community. Thanks to Bill and Beth who will be assisting. Other volunteers welcome! Then, stay for something very special: A giveaway of church items we no longer need and would like to offer to our community. Offerings will be on side tables in the Fellowship Hall and will be

## ***Volunteers Urgently Needed to Load a Dumpster***

Please come help us load a rented dumpster with items the church needs to dispose of. We need volunteers on from 10:00am—2:00pm on Tuesday—Saturday, Nov. 18—Nov. 22. There will be a sign-up sheet on the back table of the Sanctuary for volunteers. We really need you! Come help!

## ***Spartan Open Pantry Donations Welcome Now***

See Page 4 for donations needed; drop them off at the table at the rear of the Sanctuary. The need this year is urgent. Many thanks for contributing what you are able to.

## ***A Request to The Congregation***

From Joyce Powers: As part of the celebration of our time on THIS corner of Walker and Mendenhall, I would like to have our congregation share a few things: 1) A special memory of time involved with the church; 2) A statement about what the church has meant to them. Comments may be emailed to me at: jkpowers42@gmail.com, or may be submitted on paper by mail to the church office, Attn.: Joyce Powers. Please include your name. I'd also appreciate the loan of, or awareness of any written or otherwise collected remembrance folks might have. Thank you!

## ***Monthly Work Day on Saturday, November 22nd***

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.

## October 2025 Session Meeting Minutes

### NEW BUSINESS:

**Report on Presbytery Meetings:** Mitch. At the stated meeting held in Elkin there was a report on revitalization regarding a church in Winston-Salem. There's also a renewed website for the Presbytery with community resources for stewardship. Mitch also attended a called meeting of the Presbytery regarding the First Presbyterian church in Pilot Mountain, which is experiencing a schism, with 2/3 wanting to leave and move to Presbyterian Church of America and 1/3 stay with PCUSA. The decision was that a schism exists but no decision about a division of the church or its resources.

### OLD BUSINESS

**Size of Session:** We made a choice two years ago to downsize the Session to 5 members, and a Called Congregation Meeting was held on October 19<sup>th</sup> and the motion was unanimously approved.

**PASTOR'S UPDATE:** Mark has officiated at two weddings, helped plan a funeral; continues his ministry at a local bar; officially has a book deal for his sermon series; working on increasing our church's presence on social media, and is involved in numerous meetings regarding our impending move to Holderness House.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Resource Committee:** Expenses are down, but we're still running a deficit. Stewardship Luncheon was held on October 19th.

**Spiritual Formation (includes Worship and Music):** Sunday Study Group has started *Tuesdays with Morrie* by Mitch Albom. A Worship Committee meeting is scheduled in November.

**Buildings and Grounds:** Still dealing with cost for replacing chiller condenser coil; discussion about what if we don't get it fixed before we move.

**Interior:** Committee has been VERY busy; working on dates for future activities relating to our move. Planning to decorate for Advent on 30 November.

**Communications:** Mark thinks we should bring in a specialist in audiovisual matters to work on audio and video in the Holderness House so it will be suitable for our use.

**Fellowship:** Report from Ralph. Committee has only planned through December; planning a 14 December Fellowship Luncheon. Planning to move kitchen equipment to Holderness House for use there. Discussion among the Session members about how we will store and organize stuff when we move; perhaps have outside storage unit with a covered walkway to the main house.

**Outreach:** CROP walk raised \$2K; Out of the Garden Project continues; Habitat Lunch on November 1st; have two SOP Saturdays, 6 and 13 December; had speaker talk about Operation Turkey Greensboro and plan to ask individual congregation members work with that rather than have it be a Committee project. Instead of Pennies for Hunger we'll collect money for food as part of Presbytery aid to Gaza relief.

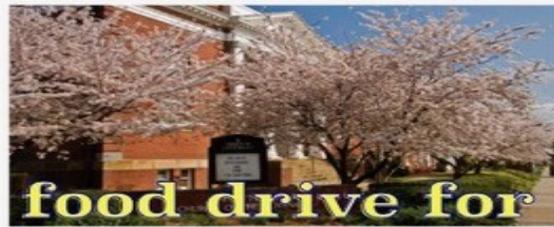
**Personnel:** Margaret said she thought we needed to do more followup from Jodi Lingan's Church Empowerment Assessment, and more discussion about what we will do with the money from the sale. Mark said that the Revisioning Committee will work on ideas for the future and bring their recommendations to Session in November. We also need to study Kate's role and that of Music Director once we move.

**Congregational Care: Fred** In September, 56 contacts were made by 4 providers.



## Spartan Open Pantry Food Drive Coming in December!

Volunteers are needed to help man our outdoor collection point on Saturday Dec. 6th and Saturday, Dec. 13th, from 10:00am t 12:00pm. The elves will share a warm fire, candy canes, and will enjoy visiting with the neighborhood as we ask our congregation and neighbors to help us love one another at the holidays with food items and hygiene items. The need this year is urgent.



Presbyterian Church of the Covenant  
501 S. Mendenhall St.  
and The College Hill  
Neighborhood Association

### Spartan Open Pantry serving UNCG students in need

Saturdays, December 6 & 13, 10am-12noon

Drop off in the parking lot across Mendenhall Street from the church



We plan on toasting marshmallows around a fire pit and sharing candy canes with all who stop by.

#### Especially needed

Breakfast cereals  
Snacks like chips, cookies, crackers  
Canned fruits and meats (lift-off lids preferred)  
Rice, Soups  
Hygiene and toiletry items (small sizes)  
toothpaste, toothbrushes, mouthwash,  
lotions, shampoos, conditioners,  
deodorants for men and women  
Laundry products (small sizes)  
Toilet paper and paper towels  
Feminine hygiene products  
Razors for men and women



## 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)



SCAN ME

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