

COVENANT COURIER



Covenant
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CHRIST • PEOPLE • COMMUNITY

MAY
2022

CHURCH SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY— SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2022

Please join the Property Committee for Church Spring Clean-Up Day! (rain date is May 21.) Some of us will begin at 8:30 AM, others at 9:00 AM and continue until we are done or until everyone gets tired.

The Committee will have some cleaning materials available, but everyone is encouraged to bring cleaning-type supplies and materials, such as cleaning cloths/buckets/brooms/step ladders, etc. The work tasks will be split into groups such as window cleaning group, floor cleaning group, landscape bed cleaning, etc., so come prepared to work on a particular task, or several.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact a Property Committee member.

GOOD SAMARITAN FOOD OFFERING IN MAY

This month, we will collect: **Baby Foods and Fruit, Pudding & Applesauce Cups.** You may drop off your contributions in the shopping cart outside the front door during office hours. On Sundays the cart will be in the Narthex. If you wish to make a monetary donation, we will pass it along, too.

Thank you for your generous donations to this local ministry!



UPDATE ON ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING

We received **\$1,090** on Easter for the One Great Hour of Sharing for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Hunger Relief, and the Self-Development of People fund! This amount includes gifts specified to support the crisis in Ukraine. Thank you for your generosity!

MOM POWER

The first session went GREAT! The Mom Power staff couldn't say enough about how welcoming and comfortable they and the mothers felt being here. They love that the families arrive to smiling faces, tables set with place mats and high chairs; hot breakfast casseroles and fresh fruit. Recipes were requested for Frankie's egg and sausage casserole!

9 of the 10 mothers with their babies, ages 1 month to 3 years, made it to the class, which is a very good turnout. The 10th mother also really wanted to come but had a doctor's appointment. We have volunteers preparing a hot meal, providing hospitality, child care, and others transporting mothers and babies. This is a real Covenant group effort! If you would like to help with supplies for the little ones, they need diapers (newborn & sizes 1 and 4); small soft balls to play with; and a size 4 soccer ball.

Thank you to all for being a part of this ministry! As the Mom Power Team works hard to build trust within this little community please continue to pray for transformation in each life.

Julie Wood—woodfamily5@bellsouth.net

LOOKING AHEAD...

- ◇ Mark your calendars: June 5th is Pentecost! Covenant is already making plans to celebrate the Church's Birthday. Worship that morning will be at **10:00 AM** outside (hopefully before it's too hot), followed by a Church Picnic! We hope you will join us!
- ◇ Save the date! There will be a Church-Wide Picnic and Pool Party on Saturday, July 30 at 6:00 PM at Betsy Moakler's clubhouse. Details to come.

**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON
MONDAY, MAY 30, FOR MEMORIAL DAY.**

THE LIBRARY AT COVENANT...by Stacy Larsen

Covenant Presbyterian owes a huge thank you to Sally Nagel for all her faithful years of service as the Librarian for our church. She was working in the technical services department of the Johnson City Public Library when she volunteered to build and care for the library at Covenant in 1993. Thank you, Sally, for all your hard work, time, and talents over the past 29 years!

As we move out of the pandemic, I want to remind everyone that the library is ready and waiting for you to come and check out a book. There are a variety of topics, and I will be working to build the collection to include books about cooking, crafting, health, travel, hobbies, parenting, and fiction. I also want to add some children's books. If there is a topic you are interested in learning more about, please let me know! It is easy to check out a book and there are copies of the procedures available on the check-out shelf and in this newsletter. (see below) I invite everyone to take time before or after church to peruse the shelves and check out a book. I will be in the library most Sundays to help or answer questions as I take on the role of Librarian. Many years ago, in the 1990's, I had the joy and privilege to work as the Branch Manager and Children's Librarian of the Colonial Heights Library in Jackson, Mississippi. I'm a bit rusty, but Sally spent some time showing me around and I look forward to serving as your Librarian at Covenant.

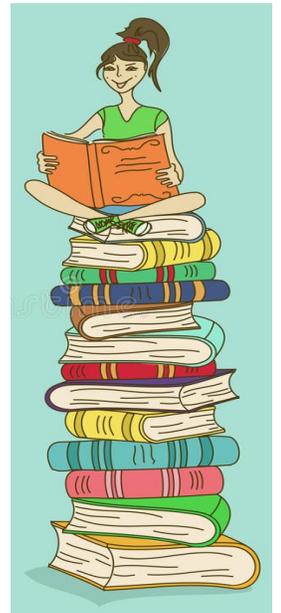
I have a stack of books to process and add to the collection. If you are interested in donating a book, please contact me at stacyllarsen@gmail.com.

WELCOME TO THE COVENANT LIBRARY

If you wish to check out a book, please do the following:

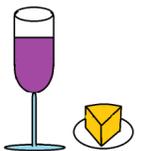
1. Sign the **BOOK CARD** found in the front or back of the book cover. Sign your name and use today's date and year. For example 7/17/1995.
2. File the completed book card in the **CHECKED OUT** box found on this shelf.
3. When you have finished your book, please place it on the **RETURN SHELF** located below this shelf.
4. If you have any questions, leave a note in the church office or catch me before or after church. Thanks!

STACY LARSEN, Church Librarian



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S CIRCLES IN MAY

- ◆ **The Joy Circle** MAY meet on **Tuesday, May 10, at 11:30 AM.** Contact **Anne Smith to find out!!!**
- ◆ **The Friendship Circle** will meet **on Wed., May 11 at 1:30 PM.** Elaine Warehime is the contact person.
- ◆ **The Red Tent Circle** will meet **on Thursday, May 12 at 7:00 PM.** BJ King is the contact person.



Love, T

Thank you all for a wonderful Administrative Professionals' WEEK! Thank you for lunch, the cards, the gifts and, most of all, the love and support I feel from all of you, all of the time.



BLACK/WHITE DIALOGUE—MONDAY, MAY 9, 2022 ON ZOOM

The May 9th meeting will take place on Zoom from 6—8 PM. It will be co-sponsored by the Johnson City/Washington County NAACP and Black/White Dialogue and will feature Dr. Cerrone Foster as our presenter/facilitator. Her discussion will focus on “The Biology of Race.” In addition, Dr. Foster will likely discuss her commitment to mentoring and preparing the next generation to carry on the progress of our culture. *Please email Ed Wolff at bbwolff1937@gmail.com for your Zoom invitation.*

BWD Purpose: Black/White Dialogue has been created to assist in our communication efforts to share stories, information, joys, and concerns about our ability to come together as a people desiring community, understanding, respect, and support for one another.



APRIL SESSION HIGHLIGHTS...by Mary O’Keeffe, Clerk of Session

- ◆ Due to Mother’s Day, the May Session meeting has been changed to the 3rd Sunday, May 15th at 1:00.
- ◆ May 29th, Pastor Maggie will be out of town and we will have a visiting preacher.
- ◆ Outreach/Communication Committee has completed an application for a Presbytery Grant to upgrade our technology. (Thanks, Hal Hunter!)
- ◆ Session approved Administration & Budget’s proposal for a new part-time position of Technical Assistant to help with our Internet/technology needs (about 2-3 hours per week). However, the position may not be filled until ETSU’s Fall semester.
- ◆ Congregational Life Committee is now co-chaired by Stacy Larsen and Betsy Moakler.
- ◆ Local & World-Wide Missions is participating in discussions with other churches about how we could be of help regarding refugee resettlement. Nothing is definite at this time, but it appears that our assistance might be in terms of things like providing transportation and/or providing needed household items for individuals/families.
- ◆ Session approved 2 items for Worship Committee.
 - Funds have been approved for the refurbishing of the Handbells (probably in the summer).
 - There will be a special worship service for Pentecost (June 5th). The Service will be outdoors at 10:00. The earlier hour will hopefully make for cooler temps. The service will be followed by an outdoor lunch.

STATEMENT ON MASKS

On behalf of Session:

Out of an abundance of caution, we require participants attending indoor activities at Covenant to wear masks, unless Washington County is in the **Yellow** or **Green** zone on CovidActNow.org. Then masks will be optional. The weekly email announcement to prepare for worship and the signs on the church doors will have that week’s color status. They may differ if the status changes after Tina posts the signs and sends the email.

ELDERS OF COVENANT (SESSION)

Class of 2022

Betsy Moakler, Cong. Life
Anne Smith, Christian Ed./Worship
David L. Wood, Worship
Tony Madden, Property

Class of 2023

Kathi Cary, Worship
Lauri Zembower, Admin/Budget

Clerk of Session:

Mary O’Keeffe

Class of 2024

Cynthia Erdei, Cong. Life
Stacy Larsen, Cong. Life
Ron Smith, Communications/
Outreach

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE SURVEY

Betsy Moakler and Stacy Larsen are co-chairing the Congregational Life Committee here at Covenant and they need your help!! The mission of this committee is to provide both fellowship and care for our church family. As we continue to define our “new normal” during the pandemic, we need to better understand how the congregation is feeling about gatherings. We also want to see what activities you are interested in. Please complete this brief survey (there are also copies at the church) and return it to the collection box located on the table outside the sanctuary or in the church office. If you would like to email your answers instead, send them to office@cpcjc.org and Tina will be happy to fill out a survey on your behalf.

In the meantime, **go ahead and mark your calendars for the upcoming Church-Wide Pool Party Picnic on Saturday, July 30th at 6 PM at Betsy Moakler’s clubhouse & for the Blessing of the Animals to be held on October 1st.** Details will follow as we get closer to the events.

On behalf of the Congregational Life team, thank you for sharing your thoughts and ideas. We look forward to serving you and our entire church family in the months ahead.

1. On a scale of one to ten, with ten being the most comfortable and one being the least bit comfortable, how comfortable are you with gathering together for events indoors?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

2. What activities are you interested in participating in at Covenant? Please circle all that apply.

Monthly After-Church Meals

Congregational Picnic

Crafting Get-Togethers

Book Club

Choir/Bell Choir

Game Time Fun

Talent Show

Church Retreat

Walking or Hiking

Senior Brunch

Acts of Random Kindness Group

Blessing of the Animals

3. Please share any additional ideas or activities you are interested in but we have not listed. Don't be shy—there are no stupid ideas!

Optional: Name: _____

PRAYER CONCERNS

Lucas Schmidt; Annette Mullins, Holly Bland's mother; Mary Elizabeth Armistead, Bob & Estelle's daughter-in-law and her husband, Daniel; BJ King's sister, Mary Lynn; Family of BJ King's office administrator; Jim & Norma Starr; Pat Smith's mother, Betty; Sharon Fuhrman; Rosemary Whitson's sister, Marshia Adams, and her niece; Pat Zembower, Christian's mom; Don & Anita Wolf, Julie Wood's parents; Ron Smith's sister, Rhonda and her husband Joe; Pat and Vickie Koppel, friends of Don & Patti Coble; Steve Jones, friend of Sharon Fuhrman; Traci Starr Honeycutt, Jim & Norma Starr's daughter; Sarah Campbell, Sharon Fuhrman's granddaughter; all those in our community affected by Covid-19; the people of Ukraine, its neighbors, and the innocent people of Russia.

Join us in continually lifting up in prayer our mission co-workers:

Bob & Kristi Rice: South Sudan ☩ The Adams Maldonado Family: Frontera de Cristo

and these Covenant ministry partners:

UKirk ETSU (Pres. Campus Ministry) ☩ Holston Presbytery Camp ☩ LatinX Ministry
The River ☩ BABMOC

NAME TAGS AND CONTACT INFO

If you are a member or a regular visitor, or even if you have just started coming to Covenant, you **most likely** have a name badge hanging on the wall in the Narthex. (to the left of the door to the Library) We're asking **everyone** to wear their name tags while at the church to make it easier to get to know each other. **If you don't find one with your name on it, please let us know!**

Also, if you would like to be added to our **congregation-wide email list**, please send a message to Tina at office@cpcjc.org. Include your address & phone number if you feel comfortable doing so.

New Email Address for David DeWeese:
DeweeseDavid225@gmail.com

Helpful Info, some based on recent inquiries:

Bill & Erma Hyers
2412 Knob Creek Rd., #202, J.C., 37604
Cell: 423-341-7932

Helen Davis (apt. # changed)
401 Princeton Rd., #200, J.C., 37601
423-975-1918

Reg Murphy
2412 Knob Creek Rd., #108, J.C., 37604
Cell: 423-430-3122

ONLINE GIVING

Did you know that you can make your contributions to the church online? Besides online giving or dropping off or mailing a check, it is also easy (and free) to set up automatic payments through your banking institution or online BillPay. Thank you for continuing to support the work of Covenant Presbyterian Church. If you have any questions, please contact Tina in the church office.

DONATE
ONLINE



MARCH TREASURER'S REPORT

Income to General Fund

March

Actual **\$14,480.03
vs. Budgeted \$17,892.00

Expenses from General Fund

March

Actual \$15,448.54
vs. Budgeted \$17,892.00

Year to Date Income

General Fund

Actual \$ **67,706.96
vs. Budgeted \$53,676.00

Year to Date Expenses from General Fund

Actual \$50,904.95
vs. Budgeted \$53,676.00

***The 5-Cents a Meal Offering
for March was \$30.00.***

*****includes pre-paid pledges from 2021
and applied to 2022.***

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

603 Sunset Drive
Johnson City, TN 37604

Phone: 423-282-5324, Fax: 423-282-5346
<http://www.cpcjc.org>, E-mail: office@cpcjc.org

Find us on Facebook:

“Covenant Presbyterian Church (Johnson City, TN.)”

MISSION STATEMENT:

Covenant Presbyterian Church exists to glorify and enjoy God. We live knowing that God calls us to be a place of love, support, hope and acceptance regardless of earthly labels; Jesus Christ commissions us to make disciples and passionately share our gifts with the world through prayer, teaching, and service; the Holy Spirit allows us to determine and carry out Christ’s will for our lives and the life of our church, and empowers us to seek out and respond to the needs of our local and global community.

AFFIRMING ALL GOD’S CHILDREN:

We at Covenant Presbyterian Church of Johnson City, Tennessee, under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church (USA), aka PC(USA), present its Churchwide Antiracism Policy, first adopted in 1999 and revised in 2016. It proclaims the following:

“While recognizing that racism victimizes many different racial ethnic groups, we acknowledge its unique impact on the African American community. Given the particular forms that anti-Black racism has taken in the United States of America, both historically (including slavery and Jim Crow) and today (including mass incarceration, disproportionate policing, economic inequality, and continuing acts of racially oriented violence and hate), we state clearly: GOD LOVES BLACKNESS. Too many have denied this basic truth for too long. Our choice to align ourselves with love and not hate requires both a rejection of racism and a positive proclamation that God delights in Black lives.”

STATEMENT OF OPENNESS AND WELCOME

We aspire to Christ’s model of openness and love for all persons. As God has welcomed us, we also welcome everyone into the life, leadership, and community of Christ’s church, regardless of abilities, age, economic status, education, ethnicity, gender identity, race, sexual orientation, social position or any identity or status that might be perceived as separating us from God or one another.

We pledge to affirm the inherent worth and dignity of each of God’s children, with membership, leadership, and employment open to whomever God calls.