

# THE COVENANT CONNECTION

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## Pastor's Note

Dear friends,

As we begin a new liturgical year with the season of Advent, we have the opportunity to share in an almost one month birthday celebration for Jesus. Each Sunday in Advent, we will tell a different part of the story of Jesus's birth, and the faithful response of his parents, Joseph and Mary, as they are given the privilege by God to have his son as part of their family.

We are blessed by God to call Jesus our Lord and Savior, and to also be called by God to be part of his holy family. As we hear the Christmas story, my hope is that we will be filled with awe and wonder at the depth of God's love for us, and his promise to be Emmanuel ("God with us").

In God's Love,  
Pastor Jody

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of  
Peace.

Isaiah 9:6

## Annual Meeting

Members are encouraged to attend the Annual Meeting called by the Session to take place on Sunday, January 18 after worship for the purpose of receiving the 2025 Annual Report.

## Ordination & Installation of Officers

New officers will be ordained and/or installed on January 18 during the 10:30 am worship service.

## Wine & Jesus

Wednesdays at 5:00 pm

For more information contact Diane  
at [dvanauker@gmail.com](mailto:dvanauker@gmail.com)

For a Zoom link contact Anne at  
[aed@woh.rr.com](mailto:aed@woh.rr.com)

**NEW PARTICIPANTS  
ARE WELCOME**

## Books & More

Come connect with fellow book  
lovers and share your insights  
on bestselling novels and  
award-winning non-fiction

For more information,  
please contact Susan Hawkins  
at [suhawki@aol.com](mailto:suhawki@aol.com)

December - No Meeting

January 29  
How to Read a Book  
by Monica Wood

## Men's Meditation

Friday Morning Men's Group  
8:00 am

Library Lounge

We use "These Days",  
Daily Devotions for Living by Faith  
as our reference for discussion.

All male church members and  
congregants are welcome.

## Carols & Lights

Sunday, December 14

5:00 pm

Prelude begins at 4:30 pm

Come be a part of a long  
standing Covenant tradition  
celebrating Christmas with  
candlelight, carols, scripture  
readings, special music, and  
beautiful decorations.



CHRISTMAS JOY  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS

LEADERSHIP: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

## Prepare the Way

ISAIAH 40

The Christmas Joy Special  
Offering will be received  
during the December 21 10:30  
am worship service.



## Lessons & Carols

Come and Enjoy a service filled  
with CHRISTMAS Hymns woven  
together with the telling of the  
birth of Jesus in scripture.

Sunday, December 28  
10:30 am

## Church Closed

Thursday  
December 25

Thursday  
January 1



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS

## PAGEANT

DECEMBER 14



# Family Service

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22  
10:30 AM

# Christmas Eve

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24  
7:00 PM CANDLELIGHT &  
COMMUNION



## COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CONCERT SERIES

**NOV 16** Christina Condon-Numerick, Flute  
3:00 PM

**FEB 22** Dayton Celtic Harp Ensemble  
3:00 PM

**DEC 14** Carols & Lights  
5:00 PM

**MAR 29** Wright State Univ. Trombones  
3:00 PM

**JAN 25** Bob Gray Jazz Orchestra  
3:00 PM

**APR 26** Lia Ferrell, Organist  
3:00 PM

**MAY 31** Covenant Singers & Ringers  
3:00 PM

## November Session Highlights

The Stated Meeting of Session was held on Monday, November 10, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. in person. Present were Session members Jay Abbey, Cindy Baird, Phil Calland, Casey Craven, Brent Dunlap, Lisa Miller, Candy Rinehart, Margaret Roark, Barb Yontz; Moderator, Pastor Jody Noble; guests John Shanley, Treasurer; Katrine Lancaster, Elder-elect. Devotions were provided by Barb Yontz

The Statistical Report showed that as of September 30, 2025, Covenant had 247 Active, 262 Inactive, and 2 Associate members. Average attendance for Sunday morning services was 214.35, including online. The Treasurer's Report showed as of 9/30/25, 60.31% of the budgeted income has been received and 64.31% of the budgeted expenses have been incurred, leaving a deficit of \$39,295.94. \$294,158.11 remain available in the Building Improvement Fund for future projects. Only 3.14% of the investments were used for "keeping the lights on." An Application for Use of Facilities from Clark County Municipal Court (Probation Officers Department) for use of our gym for ongoing weekly pickleball (November-March) was approved. The Annual Review of the Active Membership Roll was conducted on November 10. Fifteen persons were moved from Active to Inactive membership. Trustees reported that 173 pledge cards were mailed on October 8. They continue to get quotes for repairs on the organ. A list of Preferred Maintenance Schedule has been developed. Trustees approved a lease with Xerox for our copy service. The slate of officers (Elders, Trustees, Deacons) and 2026 Nominating Committee were elected at the Congregational meeting on October 12, 2025. Pastor Jody and Cynthia Nowka will attend a Next Church conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan, November 11-13.

Deacons will meet on November 16 to make final plans for the Thanksgiving Dinner, November 23 and Hanging of the Greens, November 24.

Elders Jay Abbey and Lisa Miller attended the November 9 Presbytery meeting as commissioners representing Covenant. Session approved the baptism of Cadence Boggs on December 21. Carol Miracle was elected Clerk of Session, and John Shanley was elected Treasurer. Colony V requested to use \$1,000 from their restricted funds to sponsor another food packing for Lesotho in January or February. Request was approved.

The Committees of Session gave their reports. Christian Education, along with Membership and Deacons, hosted the Fall Fest/Hoedown on November 1. Christian Education will provide Advent devotional boxes for the children. About 65 people attended and enjoyed the food, games, and dancing. Marketing Committee will continue to manage the church website, social media presence, and other communications (newsletters email, Sunday bulletin, and ads). They are working on participating in Pass the Hat at the Summer Arts Festival. At their quarterly meetings, they will be discussing new topics and ideas. Worship Committee thanks MaryAnn Steiner for creating the banners for Kirkin' O' the Tartans. Gifts of Hope {formerly Alternative Christmas Market) will be after worship on December 7 featuring Boy Scout sloppy Joes. Session approved having a donation basket on the food line at Gifts of Hope. The electronic church directory is now available. Safety Committee presented Safety Drills and Procedures. Session approved. Safety also presented an ICE and Other Federal Agents Response. Session approved the document as amended. Personnel Committee reported that 2025 Performance appraisals are almost completed and have gone well. The job description for Custodian was approved. The committee shared a warm goodbye and thank you to Missy Hawley for her 10 years of service.

The next Stated Session meeting is Monday, January 12 at 6:30 p.m. in the Session room.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer.

# December Birthdays

<b>Kathleen Henry</b>	<b>1203 Greenoak Ct. Springfield, OH 45503</b>	<b>1-Dec</b>
<b>Toni Holcomb</b>	<b>33 B Consistory St. Springfield, OH 45504</b>	<b>2-Dec</b>
<b>David Benne</b>	<b>431 Dover Rd. Springfield, OH 45504</b>	<b>3-Dec</b>
<b>Barb Wagle</b>	<b>108 Roseland East Springfield, OH 45503</b>	<b>3-Dec</b>
<b>Ellen Washington</b>	<b>2571 Crabill Road Springfield, OH 45502</b>	<b>4-Dec</b>
<b>Casey Craven</b>	<b>3982 Mallard Avenue Springfield, OH 45503</b>	<b>6-Dec</b>
<b>Paul Valente</b>	<b>715 Tanglewood Drive Springfield, OH 45504</b>	<b>8-Dec</b>
<b>Trudy Faber</b>	<b>550 W. Harding Rd. Rm 20 Springfield, OH 45504</b>	<b>10-Dec</b>
<b>David McLaughlin</b>	<b>c/o Nancy Bell 8714 Bunnell Hill Rd. Springboro, OH 45066</b>	<b>10-Dec</b>
<b>Marjorie Travis</b>	<b>111 Taylor Street Enon, OH 45323</b>	<b>12-Dec</b>
<b>Jane Craven</b>	<b>3982 Mallard Avenue Springfield, OH 45503</b>	<b>13-Dec</b>
<b>Emily Ulery</b>	<b>2564 Fox Hollow Road Springfield, OH 45502</b>	<b>18-Dec</b>
<b>Terry Van Auken</b>	<b>324 Miami Place Huron, OH 44839</b>	<b>21-Dec</b>
<b>Kay Shell</b>	<b>110 Roscommon Drive Springfield, OH 45503</b>	<b>24-Dec</b>
<b>Phil Calland</b>	<b>3285 Selma Pike Springfield, OH 45502</b>	<b>28-Dec</b>
<b>Carol Dunlap</b>	<b>140 Brighton Rd Springfield, OH 45504</b>	<b>28-Dec</b>
<b>Amber Lopez</b>	<b>500 Sheffield Dr. Springfield, OH 45506</b>	<b>28-Dec</b>
<b>Andy Bell</b>	<b>717 Edenwood Dr. Springfield, OH 45504</b>	<b>30-Dec</b>
<b>Ashley Hill</b>	<b>3460 Kenerly St. Springfield, OH 45502</b>	<b>31-Dec</b>
<b>Kimberly Skinner</b>	<b>2795 Big Woods Tr. Beavercreek, OH 45431</b>	<b>1-Jan</b>
<b>Joan Kluckman</b>	<b>220 S. Broadmoor Blvd. Springfield, OH 45504</b>	<b>3-Jan</b>
<b>Edward Bailey</b>	<b>675 W Home Road Springfield, OH 45504</b>	<b>7-Jan</b>

# December 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 9:00AM Adult Sunday School 9:30AM Troop 1 Can Col-lection 10:30AM Worship Service 12:00PM Middle/HS Youth Group	1 5:00PM Wine & Jesus	2 10:00AM Open Hands Free Pantry 7:00PM Boy Scouts 8:00PM Alcoholics Anony-mous	3 8:30AM Christ Episcopal Food Pantry Delivery 5:00PM B.A.T.S. Meeting	4 1:30PM Open Hands Free Pantry 6:00PM Choir Practice 7:30PM Bell Practice	5 8:00AM Men's Meditation 12:00PM Rainbow Table 8:00PM Alcoholics Anony-mous	6 10:00AM GOH Setup
7 9:00AM Adult Sunday School 10:30AM Worship Service 11:30AM GOH 12:00PM Middle/HS Youth Group 2:00PM Oakwood Commu-nion Service	8 10:00AM Staff Meeting 5:00PM Wine & Jesus	9 10:00AM Open Hands Free Pantry 5:30PM Staff Christmas Dinner 7:00PM Boy Scouts 8:00PM Alcoholics Anony-mous	10 10:00AM CCA Board	11 1:30PM Open Hands Free Pantry 5:00PM Mercy Health Memorial Service 6:00PM Choir Practice 7:30PM Bell Practice	12 8:00AM Men's Meditation 12:00PM Rainbow Table 8:00PM Alcoholics Anony-mous	13
14 Christmas pageant 9:00AM Adult Sunday School 10:30AM Worship Service 12:00PM Middle/HS Youth Group 5:00PM Carols& Lights	15 Annual Reports Due Newsletter Deadline Hanukkah (1st day) 12:00PM Colony V Christ-mas 5:00PM Wine & Jesus	16 10:00AM Open Hands Free Pantry 7:00PM Boy Scouts 8:00PM Alcoholics Anony-mous	17 10:00AM CCA Pageant	18 1:30PM Open Hands Free Pantry 6:00PM Choir Practice 7:30PM Bell Practice	19 8:00AM Men's Meditation 12:00PM Rainbow Table 8:00PM Alcoholics Anony-mous	20
21 10:30AM Family Worship Service 12:00PM Middle/HS Youth Group	22 10:00AM Staff Meeting 5:00PM Wine & Jesus	23 10:00AM Open Hands Free Pantry 7:00PM Boy Scouts 8:00PM Alcoholics Anony-mous	24 Christmas Eve 7:00PM Christmas Eve Ser-vice	25 Christmas Day	26 Kwanzaa 8:00AM Men's Meditation 12:00PM Rainbow Table 8:00PM Alcoholics Anony-mous	27
28 Chip Hardwick Preaching 9:30AM Troop 1 Can Col-lection 10:30AM Worship Service 12:00PM Middle/HS Youth Group	29 5:00PM Wine & Jesus	30 10:00AM Open Hands Free Pantry 7:00PM Boy Scouts 8:00PM Alcoholics Anony-mous	31 New Year's Eve	1 New Year's Day 1:30PM Open Hands Free Pantry 6:00PM Choir Practice 7:30PM Bell Practice	2 8:00AM Men's Meditation 12:00PM Rainbow Table 8:00PM Alcoholics Anony-mous	3