

# THE COVENANT CONNECTION



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*in  
loving  
memory*

**Elizabeth Miller**

Jerry & Kay Shell  
Geoff & Kay Steele  
Susan Hawkins

## Pastor's Note

Dear Friends,

As we enter February, reports indicate that ICE and other federal agencies may be coming to Springfield and could remain for several weeks. We have watched how other cities have faced similar situations, and if ICE arrives here we will each be called to decide how to live faithfully in these days. I trust that God will guide us; I encourage you to pray and read Scripture daily as we listen for God's leading.

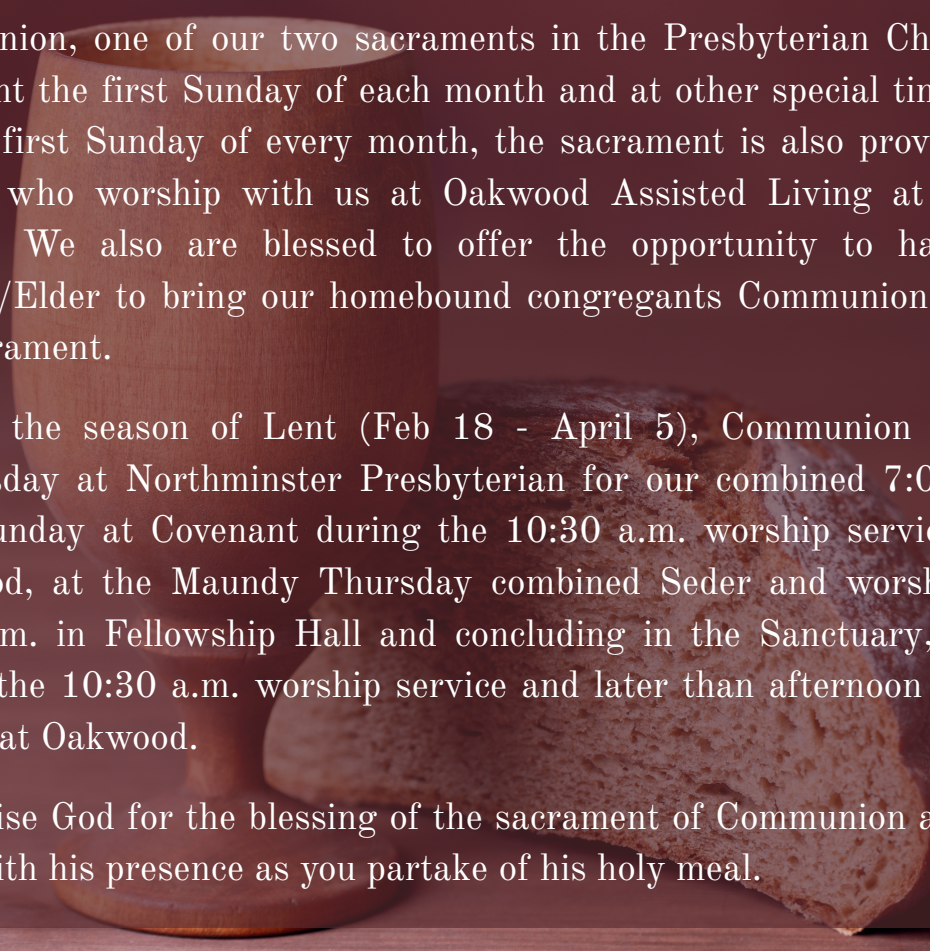
Having journeyed with you for three and a half years, I believe our congregation's hearts are turned toward the Lord and that we seek to live in ways that honor and glorify Him. Each of us walks a personal faith journey, and we may come to different conclusions about how to use our words and presence in peaceful ways.

As your Pastor, these are my commitments to you—and what I pray will be our commitments to one another: we will love and care for one another and for our community; we will listen to one another and to what is on each other's hearts; and when we disagree, we will not give up on one another, because we know each other's hearts and trust that each person is trying to follow God faithfully.

In my responsibilities as a woman of faith and as an individual, I will peacefully use my voice and presence to stand with our Haitian brothers and sisters who have been here on TPS, who have no safe country to return to (source preferred news for facts), who have worked and paid taxes, whose children are good students in our schools, and who have served our congregation and city. I pray that my individual choices will allow us to continue our shared journey, and that you will hold space for me in your heart even if you understand God's leading differently.

May God bless us all with an extra measure of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.  
(Galatians 5:22–23).

In God's love, Pastor Jody



Communion, one of our two sacraments in the Presbyterian Church/USA, is offered at Covenant the first Sunday of each month and at other special times throughout the year. On the first Sunday of every month, the sacrament is also provided to congregants and friends who worship with us at Oakwood Assisted Living at the 2:00 p.m. worship service. We also are blessed to offer the opportunity to have Pastor Jody and a Deacon/Elder to bring our homebound congregants Communion so they may partake of the sacrament.

During the season of Lent (Feb 18 - April 5), Communion will be offered on Ash Wednesday at Northminster Presbyterian for our combined 7:00 p.m. worship service, each Sunday at Covenant during the 10:30 a.m. worship service, each first Sunday at Oakwood, at the Maundy Thursday combined Seder and worship service beginning at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall and concluding in the Sanctuary, and on Easter Sunday during the 10:30 a.m. worship service and later than afternoon at the 2:00 pm worship service at Oakwood.

We praise God for the blessing of the sacrament of Communion and pray that you will be filled with his presence as you partake of his holy meal.

## February Worship Service Scriptures

### February 1

Old Testament - Micah 6:1-8

New Testament - Matthew 5:1-12

### February 8

Old Testament - Psalm 112:1-10

New Testament - Matthew 5:13-20

### February 15

Old Testament - Psalm 99

New Testament - Matthew 17:1-9

### February 18

Ash Wednesday Worship @ 7 pm  
Northminster Presbyterian Church

### February 22

Old Testament - Genesis 2:15-3:7

New Testament - Matthew 4:1-11

### Prayer of St. Brendan

"Help me to journey beyond the familiar  
and into the unknown.

Give me the faith to leave old ways  
and break fresh ground with You.

Christ of the mysteries,

I trust You to be stronger than each  
storm within me.

I will trust in the darkness and know  
that my times, even now,  
are in Your hand.

Tune my spirit to the music of heaven,  
and somehow, make my  
obedience count for You." - AMEN.



## Wine & Jesus

Mondays 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**

## 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.

## Colony V

February 16

1:00 pm

Library Lounge

# COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CONCERT SERIES

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

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

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

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

## Did You Know?



THE CHURCH HAS A PICKLEBALL  
COURT IN THE GYM!

## 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)

February 26  
My Friends  
by Fredrik Backman

# Office Closed

February 16



## Lesotho Food Packing

Saturday,  
February 14  
8:00 am - 12:00 pm  
Fellowship Hall

## Ash Wednesday

Wednesday,  
February 18  
7:00 pm  
Northminster  
Presbyterian

# Sunday Chancel Flowers & Fellowship Hour

Please consider contributing your time, talent or treasure by signing the sheets on the bulletin board by the church office. We are in need of fellowship hour hosts and the weekly chancel flowers.

Thank you

Covenant  
Presbyterian Church

## Soup COOK OFF

Make the  
best soup to  
win prizes

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 15

12:00 PM IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

### SOUP MAKERS NEEDED

Ideas might include  
Chicken Noodle  
Tomato  
Vegetable  
French Onion  
Squash Soup

FREE TO ENTER &  
FREE TO TASTE

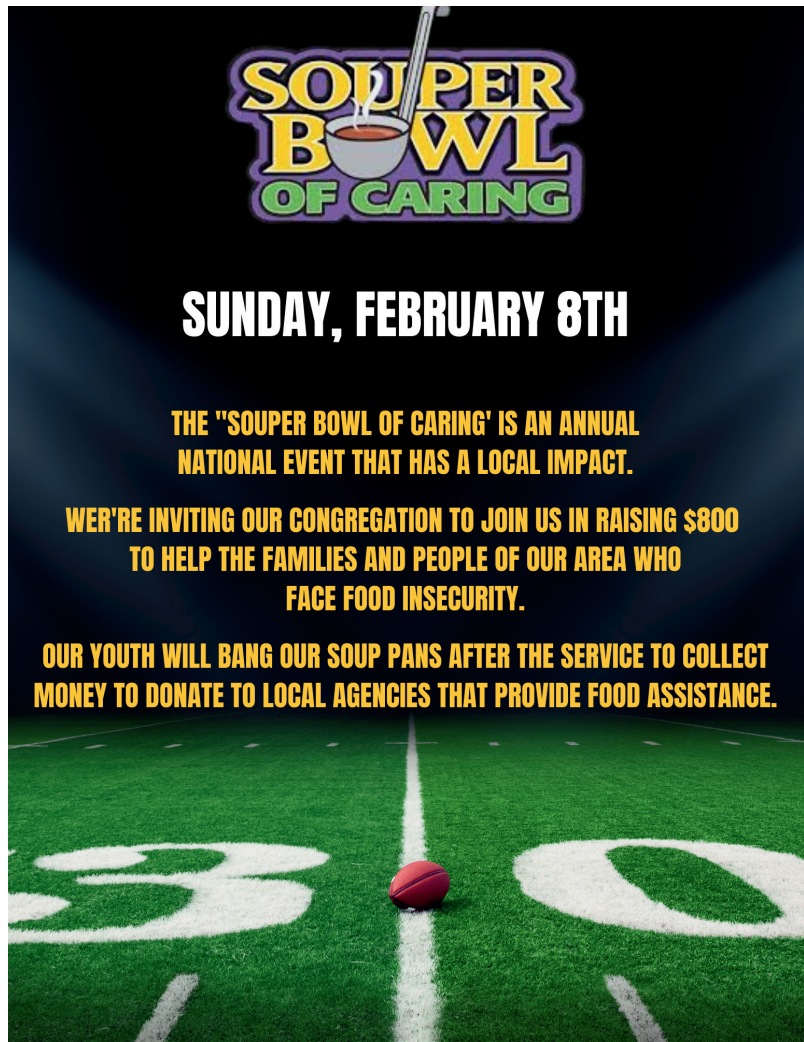


**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH**

**THE "SOUPER BOWL OF CARING" IS AN ANNUAL  
NATIONAL EVENT THAT HAS A LOCAL IMPACT.**

**WE'RE INVITING OUR CONGREGATION TO JOIN US IN RAISING \$800  
TO HELP THE FAMILIES AND PEOPLE OF OUR AREA WHO  
FACE FOOD INSECURITY.**

**OUR YOUTH WILL BANG OUR SOUP PANS AFTER THE SERVICE TO COLLECT  
MONEY TO DONATE TO LOCAL AGENCIES THAT PROVIDE FOOD ASSISTANCE.**





## **JANUARY 2026 SESSION HIGHLIGHTS**

The Stated Meeting of Session was held on Monday, January 12, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. in person. Present were Session members Jay Abbey, Cindy Baird, Phil Calland, Casey Craven, Brent Dunlap, Lisa Miller (via Facetime), Candy Rinehart, Margaret Roark, Barb Yontz; Moderator, Pastor Jody Noble; Clerk of Session, Carol Miracle; guests John Shanley, Treasurer; Marty Fagans, Chair of Trustees; Katrine Lancaster, Elder-elect; Ginnie Angus-Hall, Elder-elect. Devotions were provided by Cindy Baird.

The Statistical Report showed that as of November 30, 2025, Covenant had 241 Active, 273 Inactive, and 4 Associate members. Average attendance for Sunday morning services was 234.21, including online. The Treasurer's Report showed as of 11/30/25, 81.27% of the budgeted income has been received and 82.12% of the budgeted expenses have been incurred, leaving a deficit of \$27,043.91. Most of the deficit will be erased by December offerings. \$296,334.11 remain available in the Building Improvement Fund for future projects. The total market value of investments is \$2,807,661.44. One person was moved from Inactive to Active membership by vote of Session. Trustees met the first week of January and reported that all requirements from the fire inspection are being performed. Some delayed expenses will have to be addressed in the next few years. Some of the projects that are being explored are leathers for the organ, repair to the retaining wall on the north end of the property, installation of exterior lighting, a safer way to navigate steps to the chancel, and refurbishing a leaking window. The last capital campaign was in 2017. Covenant Children's Academy is planning its events for this coming summer. Miami Valley Presbytery meeting is Saturday, February 14 on Zoom at 9:00 a.m. Pastor Jody will be our representative since the time conflicts with Lesotho food packing.

Deacons will meet on January 18 and transition their leadership structure.

Session voted to approve the 2025 Annual Report.

The Committees of Session gave their reports. Christian Education reported there is a Lenten Bible study February 18 – April 1, Wednesday mornings 10:00-11:00. There are 21 people signed up. Marketing Committee reported that the current Facebook page that is attached to a Covenant member's personal account will be taken down and a new independent page will be opened. Marketing wants to expand Covenant's social media presence. Session approved Covenant's opening a Tik Tok account with close monitoring by committee members. Mission Committee reported Gifts of Hope raised \$17,076 for 10 non-profits. Personnel Committee announced that we have hired a new custodian, James Finley.

Phil Calland, Casey Craven, and Candy Rinehart have completed their terms on Session. They were thanked for their wisdom, dedication, and service to Covenant.

The next Stated Session meeting is Monday, February 9 at 6:30 p.m. in the Session room.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer.



# February 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> <b>Blanket Sunday</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00AM Adult Sunday School</li> <li>10:30AM Worship Service</li> <li>12:00PM Middle/HS Youth Group</li> <li>2:00PM Oakwood Communion Service</li> <li>4:00PM B.A.T.S. Meeting</li> </ul>	<b>2</b> <b>Groundhog Day</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:00PM Wine &amp; Jesus</li> </ul>	<b>3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00AM Open Hands Free</li> <li>Pantry</li> <li>4:00PM Trustees</li> <li>5:15PM Gifts of Hope</li> <li>7:00PM Boy Scouts</li> <li>8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<b>4</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30AM Christ Episcopal Food Pantry Delivery</li> <li>7:00PM Worship Committee</li> </ul>	<b>5</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:30PM Open Hands Free</li> <li>Pantry</li> <li>6:00PM Choir Practice</li> <li>7:30PM Bell Practice</li> </ul>	<b>6</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:00AM Men's Meditation</li> <li>11:30AM Rainbow Table</li> <li>8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> <b>Souper Bowl Sunday</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00AM Adult Sunday School</li> <li>10:30AM Worship Service</li> <li>12:00PM Middle/HS Youth Group</li> </ul>	<b>9</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00AM Staff Meeting</li> <li>5:00PM Wine &amp; Jesus</li> <li>6:30PM Session</li> </ul>	<b>10</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00AM Open Hands Free</li> <li>Pantry</li> <li>7:00PM Boy Scouts</li> <li>8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<b>11</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00AM CCA Board</li> <li>4:00PM Mission Committee</li> </ul>	<b>12</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:30PM Open Hands Free</li> <li>Pantry</li> <li>6:00PM Choir Practice</li> <li>7:30PM Bell Practice</li> </ul>	<b>13</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:00AM Men's Meditation</li> <li>11:30AM Rainbow Table</li> <li>8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<b>14</b> <b>Valentine's Day</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:00AM Lesotho Food Packing</li> </ul>
<b>15</b> <b>Chili Cook off</b> <b>Newsletter Deadline</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00AM Adult Sunday School</li> <li>10:30AM Worship Service</li> <li>12:00PM Middle/HS Youth Group</li> <li>12:00PM New Member Class</li> </ul>	<b>16</b> <b>Presidents' Day</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:00PM Colony V</li> <li>5:00PM Wine &amp; Jesus</li> </ul>	<b>17</b> <b>Lunar New Year</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00AM Open Hands Free</li> <li>Pantry</li> <li>7:00PM Boy Scouts</li> <li>8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<b>18</b> <b>Ash Wednesday</b> <b>First Night of Ramadan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00AM Lenten Bible Study</li> <li>7:00PM Ash Wednesday @ NM</li> </ul>	<b>19</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:30PM Open Hands Free</li> <li>Pantry</li> <li>5:00PM Church Membership</li> <li>6:00PM Choir Practice</li> <li>7:30PM Bell Practice</li> </ul>	<b>20</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:00AM Men's Meditation</li> <li>11:30AM Rainbow Table</li> <li>8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00AM Adult Sunday School</li> <li>9:30AM Troop 1 Can Col-lection</li> <li>10:30AM Worship Service</li> <li>12:00PM Middle/HS Youth Group</li> <li>3:00PM Covenant Concert Series</li> </ul>	<b>23</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00AM Staff Meeting</li> <li>5:00PM Wine &amp; Jesus</li> <li>7:00PM Personnel Meeting</li> </ul>	<b>24</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00AM Open Hands Free</li> <li>Pantry</li> <li>7:00PM Boy Scouts</li> <li>8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<b>25</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00AM Lenten Bible Study</li> <li>7:00PM Safety Committee</li> </ul>	<b>26</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:30PM Open Hands Free</li> <li>Pantry</li> <li>4:00PM Books &amp; More</li> <li>6:00PM Choir Practice</li> <li>7:30PM Bell Practice</li> </ul>	<b>27</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:00AM Men's Meditation</li> <li>11:30AM Rainbow Table</li> <li>8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<b>28</b>