

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
For a Zoom link contact:
Anne at 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

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

FREE TO ENTER &
FREE TO TASTE

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 15

12:00 PM IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

SOUP MAKERS NEEDED

Ideas might include
Chicken Noodle
Tomato
Vegetable
French Onion
Squash Soup

**SOUPER
BOWL
OF CARING**

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
1 Blanket Sunday - 9:00AM Adult Sunday School - 10:30AM Worship Service Group - 2:00PM Oakwood Community Service - 4:00PM B.A.T.S. Meeting	2 Groundhog Day - 5:00PM Wine & Jesus	3 10:00AM Open Hands Free Pantry - 4:00PM Trustees - 5:15PM Gifts of Hope - 7:00PM Boy Scouts - 8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous	4 8:30AM Christ Episcopal Food Pantry Delivery - 7:00PM Worship Committee	5 1:30PM Open Hands Free Pantry - 6:00PM Choir Practice - 7:30PM Bell Practice	6 8:00AM Men's Meditation - 11:30AM Rainbow Table - 8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous	7
8 Soupers Bowl Sunday - 9:00AM Adult Sunday School - 10:30AM Worship Service Group	9 10:00AM Staff Meeting - 5:00PM Wine & Jesus - 6:30PM Session	10 10:00AM Open Hands Free Pantry - 7:00PM Boy Scouts - 8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous	11 10:00AM CCA Board - 4:00PM Mission Committee	12 1:30PM Open Hands Free Pantry - 6:00PM Choir Practice - 7:30PM Bell Practice	13 8:00AM Men's Meditation - 11:30AM Rainbow Table - 8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous	14 Valentine's Day - 8:00AM Lesotho Food Packing
15 Chili Cook off Newsletter Deadline	16 Presidents' Day - 1:00PM Colony V - 5:00PM Wine & Jesus	17 Lunar New Year - 10:00AM Open Hands Free Pantry - 7:00PM Boy Scouts - 8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous	18 Ash Wednesday - First Night of Ramadan - 10:00AM Lenten Bible Study - 7:00PM Ash Wednesday @ NM	19 1:30PM Open Hands Free Pantry - 5:00PM Church Membership - 6:00PM Choir Practice - 7:30PM Bell Practice	20 8:00AM Men's Meditation - 11:30AM Rainbow Table - 8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous	21
22 9:00AM Adult Sunday School - 9:30AM Troop 1 Can Collection	23 10:00AM Staff Meeting - 5:00PM Wine & Jesus - 7:00PM Personnel Meeting	24 10:00AM Open Hands Free Pantry - 7:00PM Boy Scouts - 8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous	25 1:30PM Lenten Bible Study - 7:00PM Safety Committee	26 1:30PM Open Hands Free Pantry - 4:00PM Books & More - 6:00PM Choir Practice - 7:30PM Bell Practice	27 8:00AM Men's Meditation - 11:30AM Rainbow Table - 8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous	28