

# THE COVENANT CONNECTION

The Official Newsletter of Covenant Presbyterian Church

## CONTENTS

- Memorials- 2
- Groups - 2
- Events - 3
- Concert Series - 4
- New Members - 4
- Mission - 5
- Session Highlights - 6
- Birthdays - 7
- Calendar - 8



## Pastor's Note

Dear Friends,

The blessing of God growing new fruit in our midst in the form of bringing children, youth, and young adults to Covenant has created the joyous occasion for our church leadership team to complete a major restructuring of our Christian Education program. More information will be coming on this amazing opportunity for our congregation and how we will honor God's blessing us with an abundance of new families with children and young adults.

We also have the blessing of Claudia Fetts and Sheryl Cox volunteering to lead a new Fall informal group called Sunday Cyclers. Our congregants are invited to use your own bikes to casually cycle as a group from church to Yellow Springs after worship on Sept. 15 and Oct. 13. More information will be coming on this opportunity to enjoy the best of Fall weather as you fellowship with your church family.

Thank you, God, for the new fruit you are growing in and through our church!

In God's Love,  
Pastor Jody

## Per Capita Request

This is a reminder to please send in your Per Capita donation. Covenant's fair share (obligation) is \$14,907.05, based on 281 active members @ \$53.05 each.

As of 8/25/24 - 110 of our active members have given \$5,851.14 leaving an outstanding balance of \$9,055.91. We want to thank all of our members who have sent in their Per Capita, however we still have a long way to go to meet our obligation to the Presbytery of the Miami Valley.

We are prayerfully requesting the remaining 171 active members to consider sending in your \$53.05 in the near future. Thank you.



## Marty Billing

Doug & Karen Jennings  
Carol Miracle  
Bill Faulder  
Steve & Cynthia Nowka  
Jennie Zimmer  
Jerry & Kay Shell  
Joyce Cave  
Bill & Janet Heater  
John & Becky Shanley  
Thomas & Susan Hawkins  
Chuck & Lori Young  
Geoff & Kay Steele  
Rick & Barbara Yontz  
Betty Lou Hart  
Louis & Betty Driever

Dennis & Margaret Roark  
Susan Thomas & Waverly High Class of 64  
Brad & Mary Ann Steiner  
Donna J. Gainer  
Charles & Donna Novak  
Michael Jared Gorman  
David & Kathleen Henry  
Ann Davidson  
Glenn & Patricia Larsen  
Jaye Tayloe  
John & Linda Bozick  
Andrea Lamar  
Glenn & Patricia Parks  
Joseph Hesseman  
Jim & Joan Scofield

## Warren Holden

Brad & Sarah Borders  
Tom & Mary Lou Loftis

## Charles Weymouth

Betty Lou Hart  
Jane Cole

## Bill, Janet & Susan Toy

Gary & Lynne Linn

## Phil & Sally Barber

Betty Lou Hart

## David Martin

Nancy Ray



## 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**



## Sunday Chancel Flowers

If you would like to order an arrangement in memory or honor of a loved one, order forms are on the bulletin board next to the office.

Please place your completed form along with your payment of \$60.00 in the secretary's inbox located on her desk.

## *new* MEMBERS CLASS

**Sunday, November 10**

12:00 - 1:00 pm

2nd Floor Session Room

Lunch Provided

## Men's Meditation

Friday Morning Men's Group

7:00 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.



## Pick Up Bells



**September 1**

**9:30 am - 10:00 am**  
rehearsal in the Sanctuary

Come sing with all creation  
as we praise the Lord!



# *Worship at the Agle's Farm*

480 S. Urbana Lisbon Rd.  
South Vienna

September 22, 2024  
10:30 AM  
with a picnic to follow.



On Sunday September 8, the church is invited to join in the fun at Marmon Valley Horse Farm. Lunch, a hay ride, horseback riding, worship, and more.

R.S.V.P. to Tyra Jackson

coming soon  
**PICKLE BALL**

Starting this  
October  
in our church gym.

For congregants  
& guests



## Colony V

September 16, 2024  
1:00 pm  
Library Lounge

Guest Speaker: Dan Hearlihy  
President and Founder of  
Springfield Historical Society



Church office will be closed  
September 2  
Labor Day.

*Thank You*



Thank you Emma for serving as part of our staff this summer. You have been wonderful with the children and youth, and helped them grow in their faith. Have a wonderful semester abroad in Wales!



# CONCERT SERIES

# covenant

The Burning River Winds, formed in 2006, has as the core members oboist Katherine deGruchy and bassoonist John deGruchy. They perform a wide variety of chamber music repertoire with piano, clarinet, flute and double reed duets.



**Burning River Winds Trio**

John and Katherine both graduated from the Cleveland Institute of Music and so chose the ensemble's name in honor of the city of Cleveland and the mighty Cuyahoga. Their repertoire includes works by Poulenc, Francaix, Head, Jacobs, Ibert among others. The group has enjoyed successful performances in the Dayton area including performances for the Dayton Philharmonic Volunteer Organization, the Dayton Art Institute, Piqua Arts Council and the Hayner Center in Troy, Ohio and have performed at the International Double Reed Society Convention twice including the debut performance in 2022 of a nautically themed piece "Lost and Found" commissioned for the group.

## Welcome Our New Members



**Brad & Stephanie Allen**



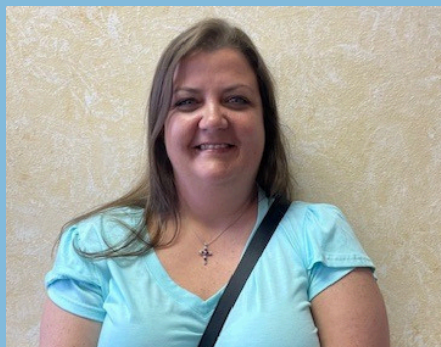
**Lori Ross**



**Emma Shaffer**



**Amie Beals**



**Brooke Rogers**



**Deanna Soldner**





## Open Hands Free Pantry

Jim & Sharon Doyle, on behalf of Open Hands, accepted a \$1500 Covenant Cares Grant presented by Gloria Sessler. The pantry is located at Covenant United Methodist Church (529 W. Johnny Lytle Ave.) and provides food to our hungry neighbors on Tuesday mornings and Thursday afternoons.



## Autumn Trails



Autumn Trails is a transformative center serving our community. Jay Abbey presented a \$1500 Covenant Cares Grant to \_\_\_\_\_. Their vision is to be a collaborative, professional and encouraging environment that brings together medical and recreational models with the healing power of the human-equine bond to make the impossible become possible for everyone we serve.

## On-The-Rise

On-The-Rise received a \$1500 Covenant Cares grant in support of their work to help students develop into a well-rounded citizens by teaching life skills, social skills and employable skills. On-The-Rise assists students as they work to apply these skills to their everyday lives and recognize the resilience within themselves to achieve anything they put their minds to.



## Covenant Freedom School



Covenant Freedom School received a \$1500 Covenant Cares grant presented by Leanne Wierenga in support of their work to deliver a culturally integrated reading curriculum, which inspires a love of reading while strengthening children's confidence and sense of community.



## AUGUST SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The Stated Meeting of Session was held on Monday, August 12, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in the Session room. Present were Session members Jay Abbey, Phil Calland, Lisa Miller (via Facetime), Candy Rinehart, Margaret Roark, Barb Yontz; Moderator Pastor Jody Noble; Clerk of Session, Carol Miracle; guests Marty Fagans, Chairman of Trustees and Emma Shaffer, Noah's Corner Director. Tim Bode, Kay Steele, and Casey Craven were excused. Devotions were provided by Casey Craven and read by Session members.

Emma Shaffer was interviewed by Session and enthusiastically approved for membership at Covenant Presbyterian. Email votes to call a Congregational Meeting for July 28 to approve Kay Steele as an Elder to fill the unexpired term of Marty Billing and approve Pastor Jody Noble's Terms of Call for 2925; to install Kay Steele as Elder; and to baptize Ariana Joazard, and Brooke Rogers were added to the minutes. Deacons are meeting August 18, 2024 to plan the picnic on the farm and other fall events. CCA begins school on Wednesday, September 4. Enrollment is increasing, and the academy is looking for grants.

The Treasurer's Report showed as of 6/30/24, 51.19% of the budgeted income has been received and 46.51% of the budgeted expenses have been incurred, leaving a surplus of \$20,295.56, a total inflated by carry over balance from 2023. \$367,784.74 remain available in the Building Improvement Fund for future projects. There have been a total of 84 pledge cards received totaling \$315,835.16. The church continues to do well financially. Hal Goodrich sent a letter of resignation as church treasurer to be effective 12/31/24. He has served the church for the past 5 years. Session voted to receive his resignation with regrets and thanks for a job well done. John Shanley will begin serving as Covenant's treasurer beginning 1/1/25. Session did the first reading on the proposed budget for 2025. Second reading will occur in September.

The following Action Items were approved by Session:

From correspondence – a request from Springfield Medical Center Spiritual Health Department to use our facilities on December 12, 2024 from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. for a Community Memorial Service.

Upon recommendation of the Trustees – appropriating \$3,850 for painting the associate pastor's office and the bathroom next to it.

The project to replace doors and entrance keypads has been completed. The camera system that allows personnel in CCA (2 rooms), choir room, financial office, and the main office to admit members/visitors is outdated and not compatible with the new door system. Session approved the \$7,542.18 expenditure to replace the outdated system.

From Trustees - creating a money market account with Huntington Bank because Huntington's interest rates are significantly higher than those we are receiving currently.

From the Boy Scouts – chartering Cub Pack #20. Our Boy Scout Troop #1 has no feeder Cub pack. A cub troop currently housed at Grace Lutheran has requested to move its charter to Covenant. The troop has 6 adult leaders who have been with the pack and are seasoned leaders who have children in the program. #1 and #20 will meet simultaneously in close proximity.

From the Boy Scouts - to hold a popcorn sale at the church in November.

From the Safety Committee – a proposed change to the “Application for Use of Facilities” form. The words “I agree to safeguard the key(s), fob and/or codes issued to me, not to copy them, not to give them to anyone, and to return them to the Church Office immediately upon termination of need for it, or upon request by the Pastor or Facilities Manager. I also verify that I have received a copy of the Access Control Policy” are to be added along with a space for signature and date.

From the Safety Committee - a newly created “Church Access Request Form”

Upon recommendation of the Personnel Committee – items concerning employee benefits (education stipend, classifications, and changing wording to be consistent with the Book of Order). The recommendation concerning Payout of Vacation and Sick Benefits upon Separation of Employment was sent back to the Personnel Committee for review.

From the Christian Education Committee - A Proposed Christian Education Restructuring document was presented. It was discussed and amended. It will go back to Education, then Personnel, and back to Session for final approval.

Reports were submitted that required no Session Action. Pastor Jody provided a Pastor's Report and a Study Leave Report. Marketing/Communication is working on a Marketing plan and hopes to present to Session soon. Covenant has taken out ads in both the Springfield Symphony and Arts Council program books. The name of Alternative Christmas Market has been changed to Gifts of Hope. Worship Committee is encouraging congregants to sign up on sheets outside the office to provide altar flowers and to host Treat Time. Worship at the Agle Farm will be Sunday, September 22 at 10:30. The Deacons will provide the protein course, and members will bring dishes to share for the picnic following the service. Worship is exploring participation in the Taize service program. The Mission Committee's primary focus for 2024 is Housing, Food, Health, Accessibility and Equality. \$1,500 checks have been delivered to Freedom School, Sheltered Inc., and Autumn Trails. Three more \$1,500 checks will be delivered to On the Rise, Open Hands Free Pantry, and Jefferson St. Oasis Garden. The Ukrainian family children went to Kirkmont for camp. \$1,400+ was received from the rummage sale for the Mission Trip to Kirkmont. Water Step at Northminster Presbyterian Church will be collecting gently used shoes the last 2 Saturdays in August. Membership Committee reports that there will be a New Member Class on Sunday, August 18 at noon with lunch provided.

The next Stated Session meeting is Monday, September 9 at 6:30 in the Session room. A called meeting will be Monday, August 26 at 6:30 on Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned with the prayer.



# September Birthdays

Dianne Pullins	41 Bexley Drive Springfield, OH 45503	1-Sep
Rebecca Larason	1724 Marinette Springfield, OH 45503	2-Sep
Alan Pester	5279 Knollwood Road Springfield, OH 45502	2-Sep
Mary Hollinger	2655 West National Rd, SR 306 Springfield, OH 45504	4-Sep
Lisa Miller	2660 Prestwick Drive Springfield, OH 45503	5-Sep
Marjorie Walden	2900 Hyannis Dr. Springfield, OH 45503	5-Sep
Kenneth Wolf	1519 W Sparrow Road Springfield, OH 45502	7-Sep
Matt Collier	212 Hawthorne Rd. Springfield, OH 45504	9-Sep
Bruce Wagle	108 Roseland East Springfield, OH 45503	12-Sep
Robert Borley	2300 E Home Road Springfield, OH 45503	13-Sep
Rachel Elder	3855 St Paris Pike Springfield, OH 45504	13-Sep
Janelle Wolf	1519 W Sparrow Road Springfield, OH 45502	13-Sep
Brooke Rogers	2332 Mechanicsburg Rd. Springfield, OH 45503	17-Sep
Polly Cooper	1727 Fox Ridge Dr. E. Springfield, OH 45503	18-Sep
Doug Stoll	830 Snowhill Boulevard Springfield, OH 45504	20-Sep
Dale Miller	226 Hawthorne Road Springfield, OH 45504	22-Sep
Stephen Neely	735 Edenwood Dr. Springfield, OH 45504	22-Sep
Rachel Day	2925 Springfield Xenia Rd. Springfield, OH 45506	25-Sep
James Smith	4843 Limrick Rd. Springfield, OH 45502	25-Sep
Lauren Washington	2571 Crabill Road Springfield, OH 45502	25-Sep
Joyce Cave	4896 Auston Street Springfield, OH 45502	28-Sep
Kenneth Dunlap	140 Brighton Rd Springfield, OH 45504	28-Sep
Gary Switzer	1339 McGillivray Ave Springfield, OH 45503	28-Sep
John Larason	1724 Marinette Springfield, OH 45503	2-Oct
Louise Samosky	2912 Burrwood Drive Springfield, OH 45503	2-Oct
Mitchell Dunlap	140 Brighton Rd Springfield, OH 45504	3-Oct
Brian Bader	25 E Home Road Springfield, OH 45504	4-Oct
Rosalie Smith	4843 Limrick Rd. Springfield, OH 45502	4-Oct
Betty Baird	2611 Old Mill Road Springfield, OH 45502	5-Oct



# September 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00AM Adult Sunday School</li> <li>10:30AM Worship Service</li> <li>2:00PM Oakwood Communion Service</li> </ul>	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>OFFICE CLOSED</li> <li>Labor Day</li> <li>5:00PM Wine &amp; Jesus</li> <li>7:30PM Narcotics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00AM Open Hands Free Pantry</li> <li>4:00PM Trustees</li> <li>7:00PM Boy Scouts</li> <li>8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30AM Christ Episcopal Food Pantry Delivery</li> <li>7:00PM Worship Committee</li> </ul>	<p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:30PM Open Hands Free Pantry</li> <li>6:00PM Bell Practice</li> <li>7:30PM Choir Practice</li> </ul>	<p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:00AM Men's Meditation</li> <li>12:00PM Rainbow Table</li> <li>8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Marmon Valley Farms</li> <li>9:00AM Adult Sunday School</li> <li>10:30AM Worship Service</li> </ul>	<p>9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:00PM Wine &amp; Jesus</li> <li>6:30PM Session</li> <li>7:30PM Narcotics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00AM Open Hands Free Pantry</li> <li>12:00PM GOH</li> <li>3:00PM Presbytery Meeting</li> <li>7:00PM Boy Scouts</li> <li>8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00AM Staff Meeting</li> <li>5:00PM Mission Committee</li> </ul>	<p>12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:30PM Open Hands Free Pantry</li> <li>6:00PM Bell Practice</li> <li>7:30PM Choir Practice</li> </ul>	<p>13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:00AM Men's Meditation</li> <li>12:00PM Rainbow Table</li> <li>8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Newsletter Deadline</li> <li>9:00AM Adult Sunday School</li> <li>10:30AM Worship Service</li> <li>11:45AM Confirmation Class</li> <li>12:15PM Sunday Cyclers</li> <li>2:00PM CE Meeting</li> <li>3:00PM Presbytery Tech Training</li> </ul>	<p>16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:00PM Colony V Library Lounge</li> <li>5:00PM Wine &amp; Jesus</li> <li>7:30PM Narcotics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00AM Open Hands Free Pantry</li> <li>4:00PM Investment Committee</li> <li>7:00PM Boy Scouts</li> <li>8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00AM CCA Board</li> </ul>	<p>19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:30PM Open Hands Free Pantry</li> <li>5:00PM Church Membership</li> <li>6:00PM Bell Practice</li> <li>7:30PM Choir Practice</li> </ul>	<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:00AM Men's Meditation</li> <li>12:00PM Rainbow Table</li> <li>8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:30AM Worship @ Agles</li> </ul>	<p>23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:00PM Wine &amp; Jesus</li> <li>7:30PM Narcotics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00AM Open Hands Free Pantry</li> <li>7:00PM Boy Scouts</li> <li>8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00AM Staff Meeting</li> <li>7:00PM Safety Committee</li> </ul>	<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:30PM Open Hands Free Pantry</li> <li>4:00PM Books &amp; More</li> <li>6:00PM Bell Practice</li> <li>7:30PM Choir Practice</li> </ul>	<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:00AM Men's Meditation</li> <li>12:00PM Rainbow Table</li> <li>8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00AM Adult Sunday School</li> <li>9:30AM Troop 1 Can Collection</li> <li>10:30AM Worship Service</li> <li>11:45AM Confirmation Class</li> <li>3:00PM Burning River Winds</li> </ul>	<p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:00PM Wine &amp; Jesus</li> <li>7:00PM Personnel Meeting</li> <li>7:30PM Narcotics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00AM Open Hands Free Pantry</li> <li>4:00PM Trustees</li> <li>7:00PM Boy Scouts</li> <li>8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30AM Christ Episcopal Food Pantry Delivery</li> <li>10:00AM Staff Meeting</li> <li>7:00PM Worship Committee</li> </ul>	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rosh Hashanah</li> <li>1:30PM Open Hands Free Pantry</li> <li>6:00PM Bell Practice</li> <li>7:30PM Choir Practice</li> </ul>	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:00AM Men's Meditation</li> <li>12:00PM Rainbow Table</li> <li>8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>5</p>