

# THE COVENANT CONNECTION

The Official Newsletter of Covenant Presbyterian Church

## Pastor's Note

Dear Friends,

The solar eclipse that will occur on Monday, April 8th at just after 3:00 p.m. is a special event for our community, both as an opportunity to see a full solar eclipse and also the blessing of hosting many out of town guests who want an excellent view of the eclipse. A dramatic event like an eclipse is a wonderful reminder of our God's incredible creative power. Psalm 19:1 tells us that, "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands." So, let's get ready to celebrate God's wonder on display during the upcoming solar eclipse! I invite you to join me in preparing for this solar eclipse by learning the science behind eclipses, understanding its historical importance, and most importantly understanding how the 27 Bible verses that record eclipses can help us understand God's signs and plans for his people.

In God's Love,  
Pastor Jody



BYOT (Bring your own tools)

Volunteers Needed

All Church Spring Clean Up

Saturday April 27 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Volunteers are needed to clean out the flower beds and landscaping around the church with the building and grounds committee. Refreshments will be served.

We are also looking for a few volunteers to lead our monthly weeding groups. All we are asking for is a one month commitment to keep the gardens weed-free.

If you have any questions please call or text

Marty Fagans(9370 508-7377 or  
email [Martfagans@hotmail.com](mailto:Martfagans@hotmail.com)

Save the date for the Fall Clean Up  
Saturday October 5th.

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**Lynn McLaughlin**

Jo Brown

Chuck & Lori Young

David & Kathy Henry

Tom & Julie Slaughter

*in  
loving  
memory*

**Charlot Wade**

Steve & Cynthia Nowka

Susan Hawkins

John & Becky Shanley

James & Brenda Devine

Betty Baxter

**Suzanne Gibfried**

David & Kathy Henry

Chuck & Lori Young

Robert & Vivian Langhals

Marie Grote

Samuel & Mariann Briggs

Jo Brown

Kenneth & Patricia Benne

Paul & Cynthia Valente

Carol Miracle

Betty Lou Hart

Dr. & Mrs. Michael Duvall

David & Ginnie Estrop

Gary & Sandra Eickholt

Thomas & Jeanne Miller

Jane A. Swartz

Ann Morrison

Tom & Julie Slaughter

**Donna Lord**

Paul & Cynthia Valente

Chuck & Lori Young

Tom & Julie Slaughter

**David Martin**

Peter & Peggy Noonan

Jim & Bonita Heeg

Robert & Lori Young

Jo Brown

David & Ginnie Estrop

Tom & Julie Slaughter

Marianna Stewart

**Phillip Barber**

Jo Brown

Tom & Julie Slaughter

**Richard Dolbeer**

Tom & Julie Slaughter

**Barbara Krohn**

Jo Brown

Tom & Julie Slaughter

**Bill Lord**

Tom & Julie Slaughter

**Warren Holden**

Tom & Julie Slaughter



**International  
Fellowship Hour**

**April 7**

Join us after worship in the Library Lounge for a special fellowship time to welcome our Ukrainian and Haitian families to church.



**OFFICE CLOSED**



**April 8, 2024**



## Note and Question from the Worship Committee

Rev. Michelle Boomgaard, Pastor of Christ Episcopal Church, spoke with the Worship Committee inviting Covenant to consider hosting a community Taize service in 2025.

What is a Taize service? Taize is prayer for all Christian faiths. It is a simple meditative form of worship, calling us to dwell on Christ's presence around and within us. Simple repeating songs like "Jesus Remember Me," prayerful silence, and short readings guide the focus of prayer in a candlelit environment.

A host church develops its Taize service of contemplation (with many online resources available) held on a late Sunday afternoon followed by a light meal or potluck.

First Baptist hosted a Taize service in February 2024 and Christ Episcopal will host one in October of 2024. In order to present a request to Session to include a Taize service in our 2025 worship calendar, we need a small group of Covenanters willing to share their time and talents to plan and host the service, and the following light meal, to talk to Susan Hawkins (SJHawkins48@gmail.com) or Pastor Jody (Fire2Last@aol.com). Would you be willing to take a leap of faith and join Pastor Jody in this effort to host a beautiful ecumenical worship opportunity for our community?

### 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.

### Toiletry Donations

Toiletries that are collected are bagged and distributed to various organizations, such as, several food pantries, Sheltered Inc. or Rainbow Table. If you are traveling this spring or summer be sure to save your unopened hotel toiletries. Our basket is in the collection area in the first floor hallway by our coat racks.

Thanks so much for your ongoing support of this ministry!!  
Covenant Mission Committee

### CONTINUE to PULL for the Dayton Ronald McDonald House

We recently (2-6-24) recycled ♻️ 10 lbs of Pull-Tabs along with 5 lbs from Christ Episcopal & St. John's Rainbow 🌈 Table each to net \$10.40 for the DRMDH!

More importantly IF each can they represent was recycled ♻️ we kept 31 thousand cans out of landfills!

Keep saving PULL-Tabs from pop, beer & flavored water aluminum\*cans as you celebrate upcoming graduations, spring & summer holidays & family get-togethers this year

\*Note: ALUMINUM PULL-Tabs WILL NOT STICK to a MAGNET like Steel Pull-Tabs will.

We appreciate the Boy Scout Troop 1 donating pull tabs from the cans they will be collecting.

A Special Thank-Y♥️U goes to SUZIE GIBFRIED for collecting PULL-Tabs from her family, friends & co-workers at TAC on this side of heaven.

## Wine & Jesus

Mondays at 5:30 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  
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.

## Books & More

Last Thursday of every  
month at 4:00 pm.  
Contact Susan Hawkins  
at suhawki@aol.com for  
more information

April 25

The Ride of Her Life  
by Elizabeth Letts



A colorful illustration for a VBS event. The word "SCUBA" is written in large, bubbly, multi-colored letters. Below it, the phrase "diving into friendship with god" is written in a smaller font. A pink octopus wearing a diving mask and snorkel is on the right, and a brown seal is on the left. The background is a blue sky with a sandy beach at the bottom.

**FREE**

**VBS Save the Date**  
**June 9 - 13**  
**6 - 8 pm**

## Brunch on the Beach

April 21

10:30 am

Fellowship Hall

Join us on  
Sunday, April 7  
for the baptisms of

Teagan Marie Dempsey  
and  
Declan Joseph Dempsey

Children of Joe and Erin Dempsey

## Colony V

April 15, 2024

We will meet at church at 11:30 am  
and travel to United Senior Services  
together for lunch at 12:00 pm.

Cost: \$4 per person

Presenter & Tour Guide:  
Maureen Fagans



# ASTRALIS CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

## THE ROMANTICS

TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 6:00 PM  
COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
201 N. LIMESTONE ST SPRINGFIELD, OH 45503



ANGELA MASSEY  
FLUTE



LAURA USISKIN  
CELLO



KERU ZHANG  
PIANO

The award-winning musicians of the Astralis Chamber Ensemble; Angela Massey (flute), Laura Usiskin (cello), and Keru Zhang (piano); present "The Romantics." The concert will include works by Robert and Clara Schumann as well as composers intertwined in their epic story with music by Mendelssohn and a magnificent trio by Brahms. Join us for a memorable evening of music with the Astralis Chamber Ensemble.



## MARCH SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The Stated Meeting of Session was held on Monday, March 11, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. by Zoom. Present were Session members Jay Abbey, Tim Bode, Phil Calland, Casey Craven, Lisa Miller, Candy Rinehart, Margaret Roark, Barb Yontz; Moderator Pastor Jody Noble; Clerk of Session, Carol Miracle; guest Marty Fagans, Chair of Trustees. Marty Billing was excused. Devotions and prayer were led by Margaret Roark.

The church welcomed two new members, Merydith Tipton and Raymond Romelius. Jack Spencer and Garth Robinson requested to be moved from the inactive to active roll. This gives Covenant 255 active members. \$600 was sent to PCUSA for the Peacemaking Offering. The Treasurer's Report showed as of 1/31/24, 12.88% of the budgeted income has been received and 3.23% of the budgeted expenses have been incurred, leaving a surplus of \$50,518.62. This has been inflated by 2023 carry over balance. \$345,835.91 remain available in the Building Improvement Fund for future projects. There has been a total of 81 pledge cards received totaling \$336,550.62. The church is doing well financially. Session approved renewal of the organ service contract, repairs on the sprinkler system, and reorganization of the grounds committee. The Application for Use of Facilities was revised to include the statement, "Applications will not be approved if the event is for personal, organization, or business financial gain." Baptism was approved for Teagan (age 5) and Declan (age 2), children of Joe and Erin (Bader) Dempsey on Sunday, April 7, 2024 at the 10:30 worship service. The Archive Room Project was discussed, and the plan presented by Pastor Jody was affirmed by the Session. Commissioners to Presbytery will be Carol Miracle and Barb Yontz, May 14; Phil Calland, Lisa Miller, Carol Miracle, September 10; Margaret Roark and Jay Abbey, November 9. Session approved closing the church office on April 8. Clark County Health District has suggested staying off the roads that day due to the large influx of traffic for the total eclipse.

Session committees gave their reports. Christian Education reported that the Souper Bowl Sunday collection by the youth went to Enon Relief Pantry in memory of Charlot Wade. Marketing/ Communication is putting together a marketing plan. The Worship Committee report gave an update on the chapel pew cushions. An Ad Hoc Committee comprised of Susan Hawkins, Marty Fagans, Cynthia Nowka, Margaret Roark, Greg Veith, and Pastor Jody met to look at samples and make a recommendation for the \$7,500 allocated by Colony V. These committee members are representatives of Worship, Trustees, Colony V, Session, and Staff. The committee voted for the bid that included the selected fabric, zippers (for cleaning and pad replacement), diamond shaped tufting, and measuring done by the company. Because of shipping costs, the bid was \$173 over the money allotted by Colony V. Session approved using general funds money to cover this extra expense. It was announced that Kirkin of the Tartans will be October 27. New tartans are being purchased with money donated in memory of David Martin. The banners will hang in the chapel when not being used for Kirkin. Session

approved the Organ Use Protocol, as written. Mission/Outreach reported that the Ukrainian family is in Poland awaiting their flight to the US. They are expected to arrive in Columbus on the afternoon of March 13 and will be greeted by a small group with three large vehicles. They are hoping to be in church on Sunday, March 17 for a "soft" welcome. Church Membership reported that a spring all-church fellowship with Bingo and snacks will be held Wednesday, March 20 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. A pancake breakfast hosted by Tom and Julie Slaughter will be Sunday, March 17, 9:00 – 10:15. The Personnel Committee sent a revised job description for Pastor/Head of Staff. Session approved. There was a motion for a Session work group to create and implement an objective Pastor performance evaluation form and a process to receive input from church leadership, congregants, and staff; and that the Session will conduct the Pastor annual performance evaluation. Approved unanimously.

The next Stated Session meeting is Monday, April 8 at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom. The meeting was adjourned with prayer.



# April Birthdays

Don Jones	1936 Wedgewood Circle Springfield, OH 45503	1-Apr
Toby Schofield	2829 Meadowgate Springfield, OH 45502	1-Apr
Thomas Slaughter	703 Oneida Drive Springfield, OH 45502	1-Apr
Kathryn Steele	110 S Broadmoor Boulevard Springfield, OH 45504	1-Apr
Ed Pullins	41 Bexley Drive Springfield, OH 45504	2-Apr
Marlies Hemmann	3035 Clarion Drive Springfield, OH 45503	3-Apr
Jason Hill	3460 Kenerly St. Springfield, OH 45502	6-Apr
Melissa Hawley	2102 Olympic Street Springfield, OH 45503	7-Apr
Mary Alice Neely	735 Edenwood Dr. Springfield, OH 45504	7-Apr
Daragh Porter-Wobbe	1 Mill Run Place Springfield, OH 45502	7-Apr
Cindy Baird	2849 Old Mill Road Springfield, OH 45502	10-Apr
Susan Hawkins	616 N Tanglewood Drive Springfield, OH 45504	10-Apr
Cole Vasileff	3168 Mingo Lane Springfield, OH 45502	10-Apr
Barbara Yontz	2643 Prestwick Village Circle Springfield, OH 45503	13-Apr
Geoff Steele	110 S Broadmoor Boulevard Springfield, OH 45504	14-Apr
Janet Heater	1316 Quinlan Ct. Springfield, OH 45503	15-Apr
Laura Baird	2849 Old Mill Road Springfield, OH 45502	16-Apr
Susan Bates	3321 Eastham Street Springfield, OH 45503	18-Apr
J Arthur Faber	Harding 550 W. Harding Rd. Rm 20 Springfield, OH 45504	19-Apr
Donna Dolbeer	1050 Borghese Lane Unit #802 Naples, FL 34114	22-Apr
Sharon Doyle	P.O. Box 508 South Vienna, OH 45369	24-Apr
Nancy Hines	32 N. Kensington Place Springfield, OH 45504	27-Apr
Jennifer Ater	121 E. Home Rd. Springfield, OH 45504	28-Apr
Emily Neely	4157 Mechanicsburg Rd. Springfield, OH 45502	29-Apr
Andrew Elder	912 S Fountain Ave. Springfield, OH 45506	30-Apr
Julie Slagel	860 Cottonwood Creek Drive Tipp City, OH 45371	30-Apr
Margaret Roark	313 W Home Road Springfield, OH 45504	2-May
Dallas Root	4245 Penny Pike Springfield, OH 45502	2-May
John Bolen	2408 Bellevue Pl. Springfield, OH 45503	4-May
Joan Elder	912 S Fountain Ave. Springfield, OH 45506	4-May
Nancy Garrett	2011 Broadway Street Springfield, OH 45504	5-May
Mary Schofield	2829 Meadowgate Springfield, OH 45502	5-May



# April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>31</p> <p>Easter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00AM Troop 1 Can Collection</li> <li>10:30AM Worship Service</li> <li>12:00PM Easter Egg Hunt</li> </ul>	<p>1</p> <p>April Fools' Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:30PM Wine &amp; Jesus</li> <li>7:30PM Narcotics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00AM Open Hands Free Pantry</li> <li>5:30PM Trustees</li> <li>7:00PM Boy Scouts</li> <li>8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00AM Staff Meeting</li> <li>5:00PM Mission Outreach</li> <li>7:00PM Worship Committee</li> </ul>	<p>4</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>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:00AM Men's Meditation</li> <li>8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3:00PM Cosby/Ulrich Wedding</li> </ul>
<p>7</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>8</p> <p>Church Closed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:30PM Wine &amp; Jesus</li> <li>7:00PM Session</li> <li>7:30PM Narcotics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>9</p> <p>Eid al-Fitr</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>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00AM CCA Board</li> </ul>	<p>11</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>12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:00AM Men's Meditation</li> <li>6:00PM Wedding rehearsal</li> <li>8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11:00AM Chuck Weymouth Funeral</li> </ul>
<p>14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00AM Adult Sunday School</li> <li>10:30AM Worship Service</li> </ul>	<p>15</p> <p>Newsletter Deadline</p> <p>Tax Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12:00PM Colony V</li> <li>5:30PM Wine &amp; Jesus</li> <li>7:30PM Narcotics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00AM Open Hands Free Pantry</li> <li>6:00PM Covenant Concert Series</li> <li>7:00PM Boy Scouts</li> <li>8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00AM Staff Meeting</li> </ul>	<p>18</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>19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:00AM Men's Meditation</li> <li>8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11:00AM Chuck Weymouth Funeral</li> </ul>
<p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00AM Adult Sunday School</li> <li>10:30AM Brunch on the Beach</li> <li>Worship Service</li> <li>12:00PM Deacons</li> </ul>	<p>22</p> <p>Earth Day</p> <p>Passover</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:30PM Wine &amp; Jesus</li> <li>7:30PM Narcotics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>23</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>24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:00PM Safety Committee</li> </ul>	<p>25</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>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:00AM Men's Meditation</li> <li>8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00AM Covenant Gardens</li> </ul>
<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00AM Troop 1 Can Collection</li> <li>10:30AM Adult Sunday School</li> <li>10:30AM Worship Service</li> <li>2:00PM CE Meeting</li> </ul>	<p>29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:30PM Wine &amp; Jesus</li> <li>7:00PM Personnel Meeting</li> <li>7:30PM Narcotics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>30</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>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00AM Staff Meeting</li> <li>7:00PM Worship Committee</li> </ul>	<p>2</p> <p>National Day of Prayer</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>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:00AM Men's Meditation</li> <li>8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous</li> </ul>	<p>4</p>