

Dear Covenant Family,

Joyful Worship!!! On June 19, what a joy it was to celebrate Father's Day with all the lay leadership during worship, special tributes by and about fathers, and lively instrumental music led by Richard Rudolph and his merry band of acoustic instrumentalists. A big shout out to Ginny Fedison and Jennifer Mundorff from Covenant's Worship Team for the work they did in planning and leading the service!



On June 26, what a wonderful day of remembrance and celebration as our Associate Pastor Dr. Jennifer Powell preached during the morning service, and we gathered for a reception to joyfully celebrate her three years with us in ministry! Be sure to check out the pictures in this edition of *Covenant Connections* honoring her time with us! Jennifer, we love you and miss you, and we pray God's blessings upon Bob and you during this year of travel and beyond!



Looking ahead, mark your calendars now for three very special services being planned, one indoors, and two, out! Find more details on Page 3!

Welcome, Jewel Aagaard!!

What a joy it is as we continue to welcome our new Director of Faith Formation Ministries, Jewel Aagaard. She has already hit the ground running – meeting with the Faith Formation Team, picking Jennifer Powell's brain for Faith Formation insights, leading music for Vacation Bible School, singing during worship, planning a "young families" pool party at her home on July 15, and connecting with our middle school and senior high youth!



While her current arrangement with Covenant is working up to 15 hours per week, she will begin full-time with us on August 23. Her work email is jaagaard@covroanoke.org. To learn more about Jewel, please click here: <https://bit.ly/CovRoaWelcomeJewel>



Jewel, it is good to have you on board, and it is a joy to welcome you and your family, Kevin, Calvin, and Helen, to Covenant!

With gratitude for the blessings God continues to pour out upon us,
Kyle

Let Us Pray . . .



Church Members: Christine Beck, Mary Jane Fisher, Susan Foard, Lynnmarie Hancock, Suellen Hodges, Walter Jones, Ray Martin, Lindsey Nanz, Debbie Ogle, Ann Cecil Renick, Carol Ryan, June and Forrest Smith, Lois Stein, Colette Strother, Roger Tims, Jo and Wayne Wilson, caregivers, military service members and families.

Family and Friends: Lowell Bashlor, Jr., Kenneth Benner, Martha Brumfield, Rosanna Crist, Patrick Dooley, Larry Ford, Dickie Hinchee, Tyler and Rochelle Holm, Jay Johnson, Rob Kidder's brother, Bill Miller, Rich Moreau, Mike Overacker, Phil Peters, Mair Rubin, Alice Schlaffman (former member), Carl Utley, Daniel Woodbury.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:6-7)

Please take a moment to review the list above and let the church office know of any names that may be removed. Thank you!

Attention: Communion for our Homebound members

The session of Covenant Presbyterian Church is excited to have the opportunity to serve the Sacraments of the Lord's Supper to our homebound members. We will begin doing this extended service of our monthly Lord's Supper on a quarterly basis. Please call the church office (540 989-3314) or email Gail (gails@covroanoke.org), if you are interested in being served communion. **Upcoming dates for extended communion are Sunday August 7, and October 2 which is World Communion Sunday.** We want you to feel a part of Covenant by participating in this extended service.



On June 5 we were pleased to welcome new members Teri Ponton, Ashley Musheno, and Martha Donovan. Welcome to Covenant!

Food for the Soul

Judi Barnes ~ Centering Prayer

I Will Create Peace in My World Today

And Peace begins with me each day as I learn to...

- Seek and nurture peace within myself
- Respect the worth of all people and all life
- Accept people as they are, without judging or labeling
- Find common ground with those who seem different
- Practice peaceful solutions to problems
- Support peaceful actions by all people, including leaders
- Work for fairness and justice in my community
- Become an instrument of peace right where I am



Our heartfelt thanks to our Covenant family for prayers, well wishes, cards, visits, and treats following my sailing accident at the lake. I am on the road to recovery via Duke. My sails will remain furled for a while. All of these acts of kindness and expressions of concern were sincerely appreciated. It means a lot to have such a caring church family.

*With gratitude,
Walter Jones*

Special Summer Worship Services

Joy and grace abound, and we hope you will make these special services part of your summer plans –



On Sunday, July 24 at 10:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall, our youth (with guidance from our Youth Advisors Cheryl Floyd and Laura Jane Ramsburg) will lead a special **Chrismon “Christmas in July” Service**. The Christmas story from the Gospel of Luke will be shared, accompanied by Chrismons (Christ monograms) and carols will be sung, with Tom Floyd providing the accompaniment. We will hear the history of the Chrismon tree and engage in Chrismon/ornament making. It’s going to be a wonderful service. Learn more about celebrating Christmas in July at ministrymatters.com/christmas-in-july-sunday

On Sunday, July 31 at 9:30 AM, dress casually as we gather outdoors in the lower parking lot beneath the shade of the mighty oaks for a **Celtic Worship Service** (this will be the only service for the day and held indoors if inclement weather). Our own Laura Jane Ramsburg will be preaching! The service will have the feel of worship on the Emerald Isle!! Some members of *Second Wynde*, the area’s premier Celtic group, will lead us in worship. Who knows? If we are lucky there maybe the sound of bagpipes! Truly fun worship and nothing from the Blarney Stone! Wear your green!



On Sunday, August 21 at 9:30 AM, our service will also be outdoors, featuring the sounds of Covenant’s **Spiritual Steel** band. We will celebrate the baptisms of Ashley Musheno and her son, Landry. Other new members may also be received and welcomed at this time.

June Cookout & Concert



Thank you to the Fellowship Team for another wonderful concert and cookout on Friday, June 10! Special thanks to 360 Band the amazing music.

Looking Ahead



Summer Events You Don't Want to Miss!

- Wednesday, July 13 – All day Youth Connection
– Ice Cream Social @ 6:30 PM ~ Yum!
- Thursday, July 21 – Red Cross Blood Drive
- Saturday, July 23 – Lexington, VA with Covenant Tours
(Visit the church from which our organ came)
- Sunday, July 24 – Youth-led Christmas/Chrismon Worship Service in the Fellowship Hall
- Saturday, July 30 – Youth Hike to the Cascades
- Sunday, July 31 – Outdoor Worship Service @ 9:30 AM; led by Laura Jane Ramsburg, with Celtic Music & Bagpipes!
- Sunday, August 14 – Youth Connection
- Saturday, August 20 – Youth Tubing on the James
- Sunday, August 21 – Outdoor Worship Service @ 9:30 AM with Steel Drums; wear Caribbean shirts & flip flops
- Sunday, August 28 – Youth Connection
- Sunday, September 11 – Rally Day
- Friday, September 16 – Campfire & S’mores
Sure to put a smile on your face!
- Thursday, September 22 – Red Cross Blood Drive
Please give the gift of life!
- Saturday, September 24 – PCC Train Tug returns!
Start planning your teams!
- Sunday, September 25 – Soli Deo Gloria
All music worship service ~ A truly joyful experience!

YOUTH CONNECTION!

Thank you to our Covenant family, and our youth dads for a very successful carwash! Your generosity was overwhelming! The youth made \$774 from this fundraiser. Activities continue throughout the summer. Check out our busy schedule in the “Looking Ahead” section of this newsletter.



Join us on Sunday, July 24 for “A Chrismon Christmas” – a very unique worship service planned and led by our youth in the Fellowship Hall. Look for the **Angel Tree** in Heritage Hall and details in this newsletter.

The Fellowship Team meets on Monday, July 11 at 7:00 PM in the Blue Room. If you would like to help plan our fun activities, please join us! We are always looking for new people and new ideas.



Bus Trip to Lexington, Virginia!

On Saturday, July 23 the church bus is going to Lexington to visit Grace Episcopal Church from which our pipe organ came. We will visit the church, then have free time to spend as you wish: walk around campus, enjoy the lovely shops (including a Christmas shop) and have a wonderful lunch. *This is not Lee Chapel which is now closed for renovations.* The sign-up sheet is in Heritage Hall.

Christmas in July returns!

On Wednesday, July 13 at 6:30 PM join your friends for an Ice Cream Social and some Christmas trivia! Come and compete with your fellow "lovers of all things Christmas"!



Christmas in July for the Presbyterian Community Center's Pathway Program

Our generosity opportunity for July will be to provide some of the many school supply needs for the PCC Pathway Program. Please take an ornament/tag or two from the Christmas tree in Heritage Hall, purchase the items, and return them under the tree with the ornament/tag attached, by Sunday, July 31. Thank you for your generosity and support to the PCC.

PCC School Supply Needs 2022-2023

Dry erase markers

Plastic 2 pocket folders

Crayola markers

Glue sticks

Mechanical pencils and lead refills

Boxes of tissues

Ziplock bags – all sizes

Adult size scissors

Packs of printer paper

Highlighters

Binder pencil pouches

Crayola colored pencils

Ticonderoga pre-sharpened pencils

Large bookbags for middle and high school

Clorox wipes

Graph paper

TI-84 graphing calculators

Construction paper



Volunteer Tutors Needed at the PCC Pathways Program

The Presbyterian Community Center's Pathways Program is seeking volunteers to tutor students this fall. **Volunteers must be fully vaccinated.** If you are available to help, please contact Nicole Jennings, Director of Family Programs, at 540 982-2911 for further details.

Schedule is one day per week, Monday through Thursday:

4 – 5 PM Elementary

5 – 5:30 PM Middle and High School

Blood Drive



Red Cross Blood Drive @ Covenant: Thursday, July 21 from 10 AM – 4 PM

There is a severe shortage of blood and has been for 2 years due to the impact of Covid. Please, donate if you are able. First time donors are great! Drink lots of water and sign up at redcrossblood.org.

Hunger Offering/Two-Cents-A-Meal

Our Covenant family has given \$ 3,902 this year to assist the Presbyterian Community Center Food Pantry and other hunger initiatives supported by The Presbytery of the Peaks. **Thank you for your generosity!**





Earth Care Inspiration: Bugs/Insects and Weeds

Bugs and Insects: We know that some bugs and insects are garden and lawn friendly. For example, earthworms help to break down organic matter and fertilize the soil; or bees and butterflies are pollinators. Then there are the not-so-garden-friendly varieties that can do real damage in our gardens such as aphids, some beetles, whiteflies, leafhoppers, some caterpillars. This year I am trying Dr. Earth's FINAL STOP Vegetable Garden Insect Killer for organic gardening is made from 6 essential oils, glycerin, lecithin and water; found at Walmart (Clearbrook) for \$10.89 - 24 oz. spray bottle. OMRI Listed (the most complete directory of products for organic production or processing, with over 8,000 products that are "OMRI Listed®" to USDA National Organic Program standards.) The Dr. Earth website is quite interesting! (www.drearth.com)

Weeds: Herbicides are a bit trickier because they are often non-selective, meaning they will kill any plant. Dr. Earth makes a weed and grass herbicide that is OMRI Listed. This year I am going to try one of the homemade remedies I found – vinegar-salt-soap solution. You can Google organic herbicides at The Spruce or at Good Life Designs for some really helpful articles and information. (www.thespruce.com or www.goodlifedesigns.com)

A Question? Do you have a product or home remedy that is environmentally safe and has proven effective for you? Let me know at jpb0844@aol.com. I'll compile and publish your responses for use next growing season.

Church Library News



The Library is continuing the **Puzzle/Game/Home Activities (and Cookbooks) Giveaway** throughout the summer so have fun with this and keep donations coming!

Our latest initiative is our **"Read and Rate Books"** program. Pick out books you are interested in reading and by rating them, you will be helping us keep the best books in our inventory. To learn more about this and our latest activities, please look for our entries in the Sunday morning bulletins or in your email on Monday mornings.

Session Highlights from the June 26, 2022, Stated Meeting

- Anne Craig, Director of Covenant's Preschool, provided information regarding the preschool's attendance numbers, successes and challenges, and planned activities.
- Approved the Missions Team's request to apply in 2023 for funding up to \$5,000 under the Presbytery of the Peaks' Church Redevelopment Grant program for participation again next year in a Sleep in Heavenly Peace sponsored bunk bed-building charity effort.

The approved Session meeting minutes are available for viewing in a binder in the church library or at this link: covenantroanoke.org/2022.05.22-Session-Meeting-Minutes.pdf

Minutes for the May 22, 2022, Congregational Meeting are also available in the church library, or at this link: covenantroanoke.org/2022.05.22-Congregational-Meeting-Minutes.pdf

The next Stated Meeting of Session will be on Sunday, August 28, 2022. If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact Meg Munton, Clerk of Session, at munton.clerk@gmail.com.



Covenant @ the Salem Red Sox!



The new oven has been installed!

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1					1	2
3 10:30 Worship with Communion *Bring Bread	4 <i>Independence Day</i> <i>Church Office closed</i>	5 9:30 Staff Meeting	6	7	8	9
10 10:30 Worship *Hunger Offering	11 4:00 Centering Prayer 7:00 Fellowship Team meets	12 <i>(No Staff Meeting)</i> 6:30 Missions Team	13 6:30 Ice Cream Social	14 9:30 Presbytery Committee on Ministry	15 4:30 Pool Party for Young Families	16
17 10:30 Worship	18 9:00 Preschool Summer 12:00 Camp 4:00 Centering Prayer 7:00 Finance Team	19 9:00 Preschool Summer 12:00 Camp 9:30 Staff Meeting	20 9:00 Preschool Summer 12:00 Camp	21 9:00 Preschool Summer 12:00 Camp 10:00 Red Cross Blood 4:00 Drive	22	23 Day Trip to Lexington (Church Bus)
24 10:30 <i>Chrismon Christmas Worship (Fellowship Hall)</i>	25 4:00 Centering Prayer	26 9:30 Staff Meeting	27	28	29	30 Youth Connection Hike to Cascades
31 9:30 Outdoor Worship with Celtic music						