



Your Communicator

Covenant Presbyterian Church

March, April, May 2011

Covenant Events:
For updates to happenings at Covenant see your weekly Thursday e-newsletter, monthly Deacon mailings or check our web site:
www.covenantpcusa.org

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Dear Covenant friends and family,

Our elders and deacons know that for the past several years, we have been focusing on setting Covenant's priorities

along the same lines as Jesus' priorities: loving God, loving neighbors, and making disciples. These priorities are based on the Great Commandment and the Great Commission, both of which can be found in the Gospel according to Matthew. Frankly, those three priorities are what any church, anywhere, and at any time should be about. In short, they urge us to dig deep into the good stuff, live it out, and share it.

Every year or so, we need to look carefully at our mission and see what we need to enhance, what we need to do differently, and what we need to reconfigure entirely. This year, I see three areas that need our attention as a congregation.

The first is a deepening of our faith. We can't share what we don't have. We can't serve well if we are not being refreshed and refueled ourselves. Your staff and your officers are doing all we can to provide you with opportunities for worship, prayer, and spiritual development. Take advantage of it! It's part of how we learn to love God.

A second area that needs our attention is our expressions of hospitality.

These range from how well we greet strangers to how safe and accessible the building and grounds are to what we offer to the community beyond ourselves. It's part of how we love our neighbors and make disciples.

The third area has to do with communication. Not just "good enough" communication, but "really, really good" communication. We are expanding our ways of getting the word out to include texting and Facebook, while continuing to invest in and improve our weekly emails, bulletins, website, and this Communicator. "Really, really good" communication also has to do with how we as individuals deal with one another. We can always learn more about being direct with grace, having the courage to clear up a misunderstanding, and avoiding that old temptation to gossip. These are lessons we never outgrow the need for, and our faith community is the place to be intentional about the effort. As important as hospitality, "really, really good" communication is about loving one another and getting the word out to the world that God is doing great things.

I hope this becomes a season for all of us to deepen our faith, welcome others, and get the word out!

Grace and peace,

Tracy

Continued on Page 5



Katie's Corner - Christian Education

"For too long the Church has been seen as an oasis in the desert – offering water to those who are thirsty. In contrast, the emerging community appears more as a desert in the oasis of life, offering silence, space and desolation amidst the sickly nourishment of Western capitalism. It is in this desert, as we wander together as nomads, that God is to be found. For it is here that we are nourished by our hunger." (Peter Rollins *How (Not) to Speak of God*)

Do you remember what Jesus did immediately after he was baptized and God's Spirit declared him to be a beloved son? Jesus went into the desert, into the wilderness. There, he faced his own personal, deepest temptations, as he learned about who he was and what it meant for him to be faithful to God.

Lent is a time in the church year in which we are offered the same desert possibilities. We are asked to put down all we are grasping. We are asked to stop the gluttony of food and shopping and busyness. We are asked to reside in emptiness and to listen to deep voices. We are asked to search out God's heart.

March 9th is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of this communal journey. May we all support one another in our desert time. Remember that if you need strength for the journey, tools and strategies for wilderness survival, we are here to help you. Worship, forums, Bible studies, friends, the staff of the church, our prayer chain . . . we are here, the body of Christ, to equip and sustain one another in the callings to which we are called. Don't be afraid of the desert. It has its own beauty. And God is there.

Katie Kinnison, katherinekinnison@covenantpcusa.org

Joy Gym

Fridays, 9:30-11am

From 9:30 to 11:00 am each Friday morning we fill our Fellowship Hall with riding toys and bouncing balls and soft mats and books and snacks and little children and more joy than anyone could ever measure. We know toddlers and preschoolers need to run, and parents of young children need to get out of the house. So, come. Everyone is invited, and there is no charge. Contact Katie if you have any questions.

Wednesday Bible Study

7-7:45pm, Lounge

Have you wondered what the Law has to do with being a Christian today? Have you wondered what the Hebrew Scriptures have to say to people who are trying to follow Jesus? Join us on Wednesday nights as we make our way through the books of Deuteronomy and Jeremiah. Watch the story of the Bible unfold, and see what the Spirit of the Living God will do within us as we read. Questions? Contact Katie Kinnison.

Easter Celebration and Egg Hunt

Sun., May 1, 9:45am, Fellowship Hall

We'll have yummy treats and crafts and games, and once we think all have arrived, we'll begin our Easter Egg Hunt. All children and their families are invited, and we love to include new friends.



Mardi Gras Pancake Breakfast

Sun., March 6, 9 -11 am, Fellowship Hall



Join us for one last party before Lent. Chris Cakes will be flipping flapjacks, and we'll have beads and masks aplenty. It's \$4 each for all-you-can-eat sausage, pancakes, orange juice and coffee. Children three and under are free. Invite your neighbors, and we'll have even more fun.

Darkness2Light & Stewards of Children Training

Sun., March 13, 12-2:30

There is a toxic, life-threatening epidemic: One in four girls and one in six boys suffer sexual abuse before they are 18. Learn how you can help solve this crisis. Stewards of Children classes (w/lunch) are offered by Karen Jackson and Katie Kinnison. You need not be a Covenant member. Training materials cost us \$15 per person, so donations are appreciated. Call the church office or e-mail Karen or Katie to RSVP.

2011 Vacation Bible School Dates July 25-29

Sunday Night Bible Study

6:30pm, Lounge, 120
Lisa Wallace and Colleen Davis lead this study of the Gospel According to Luke.



Sunday Morning Education Hour 9:45 am...and more

ADULTS - Contact Person: Katie Kinnison

- **The Forum**, Lounge - Sundays at 9:45 am

So that we may deepen our lives in God, so that we may love each other more powerfully, so that we may share all the grace and peace of the Holy Spirit who abides in us - we practice. We focus our attention on particular things we can do that will make us better disciples of Jesus. Join us, as we share the stories of how we live our faith and become truer, stronger bearers of God in the world.

New Life Practices

Each week, we'll watch seven minutes of a DVD by Lauren Winner. Together, led by various staff and members of Covenant, we'll discuss why these practices matter, how we might actually live them, and how doing so can bring us into new life, into new ways of being in the world.

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|---------------------------------|---|------------------------|
| March 13 Sabbath Keeping | April 3 Prayer | May 1 Doorposts |
| March 20 Hospitality | April 10 Fasting | |
| March 27 Mindful Eating | April 17 Mourning | |
| | April 24 Happy Easter (No Forum) | |

- **March 6 – Mardi Gras Pancake Breakfast, 9-11am (See page 2); Lenten Resources in Lounge**
- **March 9 is Ash Wednesday**, a day of looking closely at who we are in relation to all of Life's possibilities, of who we are as children of the Holy One. We begin the season of Lent: a spring time for the soul. We churn up the soil of our souls that has become hard and cold, we again make room for the breath of the Spirit in our lives.
- **Lay Led Bible Study**, Room 120 – Check on line or in a church bulletin for info on which scripture is being studied. Contact Person: Marsha Martin
- **Parents Lounge**, Room 102 – A chance for parents to share their lives, laugh some, and support one another.

YOUTH

- 4th-7th grades – Faith and Fun, Lower Level
- 8th-12th grades – Bibles and Brew @ Panera - meet in front of Karen's office by 9:50am if you need a ride

Children birth to 3 years of age: Our nursery is staffed from 8:15 until 12:30

Children 3 years through 3rd grade: Treasure Finders: Sunday School Covenant Style, room 104 (We'll begin and end our time there, going to age appropriate classrooms in between.)

Treasure Finders Curriculum

- | | |
|---|---|
| March 6 Molly Pickens #9;
Mardi Gras Pancake Breakfast | May 1 Easter Celebration/Egg Hunt, Fellowship Hall |
| March 13 MP #10; Lent: Spirituality Bazaar | May 8 The Road to Emmaus |
| March 20 God Calls Jonah | May 15 Breakfast on the Beach & Fishing for People, Fellowship Hall |
| March 27 Jonah Tries Again | May 22 Teacher Appreciation Brunch, Fellow. Hall |
| April 3 Jonah Pouts | May 29 Who Is this Holy Spirit? |
| April 10 Jonah & A God Who Never Stops Loving | June 5 Praying and Listening |
| April 17 Holy Week | June 12 Pentecost Party, Fellowship Hall |
| April 24 Happy Easter – No Treasure Finders | |





Karen's Corner - Youth

Dear friends,

"Every day, nearly 8,000 kids under age five die because of hunger-related causes. Some starve. Some get sick — and their hungry bodies are just too weak to fight. And that's not the half of it. In all, more than 24,000 kids lose their lives each day, most of them to poverty, disease, and, yes . . . hunger. The biggest tragedy? Almost all of these deaths are absolutely, 100 percent preventable." – 30hourfamine.org

Join us as we seek to change these staggering statistics! Our youth will hold our **3rd annual 30 Hour Famine April 15-16**. We will raise awareness and funds while learning about hunger, playing games, and doing service projects, and we will do it all on an empty stomach. We begin our fast after breakfast on Friday morning and continue until 1pm on Saturday. I'm just going to let you know, it's not easy! We are hungry! But we have an amazing group of young people at Covenant who are committed to experiencing hunger for 30 hours in an effort to love and serve those who experience it every day.

You can join us in our effort by participating in our fast, donating money, or by baking for our bake sale to be held at Upper Arlington High School in the week before the famine (contact Karen). It may seem funny to bake for a famine, but this is a great way to raise awareness about hunger and raise money at the high school.

Shalom, *Karen Ware Jackson* karenjackson@covenantpcusa.org

Montreat Youth Conference July 10-16 (For youth entering 9th-leaving 12th grades)



Travel to the mountains of North Carolina for a week of amazing worship, fabulous speakers, super-fun games and recreation, and amazing small group discussion. These youth conferences are famous throughout the country. You'll

not only have your friends from Covenant, but you'll meet many of the 1000+ Presbyterian young people from all over. Don't miss this unique experience.

Confirmation Class 9:45-10:45, Lower Level

If your 7th-11th grader is interested in deepening faith and possibly becoming a member of the church, there is still time to join the class. Contact Karen right now. **February 27, March 13, March 27, April 10, May 1, May 15, May 29**

Order Your Easter Ham! Order by Sun., April 17

Get your Honeybaked products for Easter and support the youth! Look for more info.

Covenant Café: "A Taste of Italy" Sat., March 5

Support our youth summer programs and mission trips. Get your tickets (\$15 for adults) and donate to the silent auction now.



30 Hour Famine – April 15-16

Join us for a lock-in and fast. (See above.) Invite your friends to be a part of this special experience.

Pittsburgh Project July 4-8

(For youth entering 6th-8th grades.) This is a great opportunity to serve vulnerable home owners in the Pittsburgh area, learn more about God's heart for you and for the world, and have a great time with your friends from Covenant.

Young Adult Theology Pub Wednesdays Old Bag of Nails, UA, after Gathering



Join us for good food, good friends, and good conversation every Wednesdays after Gathering (approx. 7-8:30pm). We will meet after Preacher from the Pew during Lent (approx. 7:30-8:30). This is a great

way to bring new people into our Covenant family. Invite them to Gathering and Theology Pub afterwards.

Connections Youth Group, 5th-7th graders - Wednesdays, 6-7:30pm

Chi Rho Youth Group, 8th-12th graders Sundays 6-7:30pm

Deacons Report

We look forward to an exciting year for the Deacon's as adjustments in programming are made to enhance sustainability, focus on activities and provide more participation opportunities for congregation members.

Our first adjustment is to consolidate the Deacon zones. Two Deacons will be assigned to a single zone that is twice as big. We hope to provide better sustainability through better communication and response for congregation members. We plan to reduce the number of Deacon meetings and focus those meetings on planning for schedules, budgets and personnel needs. Specific committees may need to meet to plan for activities. We anticipate we will have more time for activities that serve the congregations needs.

It is our goal to provide more opportunities for congregation members to participate in local mission activities such as fixing a monthly breakfast at the Ronald McDonald House or working at the Mid-Ohio Food Bank. If you have an activity that we could help with please let us know. We want to be able to use our resources for local mission opportunities.

Our first priority is the members of our congregation. We have many ways to serve and hope our members will take advantage of those services. This year we especially want to encourage our congregation members to join us in local mission activities because the needs are great and benefits are many. Watch the church bulletin for updates on Deacon activities.

Jeff DuBois, Moderator

PS If you are in need of prayers or would like to lift up prayers when others are in need, please contact the office staff, Carol Carr or Terri Hayes.

Clerk of Session Report

The Clerk of Session would like to pass along some new statistical data as of the Clerk's report to National PCUSA Presbytery on Feb. 16, 2011. During 2010, Covenant had gains in membership of 31 members, with losses of membership of 27 members, so our net gain in new members was 4, which puts Covenant's active membership at 610. It is also good to note that our younger age groups saw an increase in new members which tells us that our growth is happening within younger people. Covenant's current New Member class has 12 potential members, and these folks should be received for membership within Covenant during the first quarter of 2011. Hopefully you've had an opportunity to attend our Wednesday night Worship experience, "The Gathering." This gives a new definition to the phrase "An energized Spiritual Awakening," as it emphasizes music and prayer with a powerful scripture-inspired message. Please make the Wednesday night "Gathering" part of your weekly Covenant spiritual experience. Look for Covenant's annual Stewardship campaign which will culminate in May with our annual Dedication Sunday. Summer VBS is already taking shape and promises to be a wonderful event. Covenant's Youth groups have their Mission trips organized for the summer of 2011. Covenant's Seeds of Hope Community Garden is excited about its upcoming second year. Our garden has been a wonderful way for Covenant to evangelize and spread the good news and joy of sharing our bounty with local food banks. As always, Covenant Deacons are busy supporting our congregation and the local community, so when you see a Deacon, thank them for their service. Our next Session Business Meeting is scheduled for March 14 and it should be noted that all Covenant Ministry Commissions will be presenting tentative budgets for fiscal year 2011 -2012 by mid April 2011.

Tom Billman, Clerk of Session

**Every Wednesday *Gathering*, 6pm, Fellowship Hall.
Casual, interactive, family-friendly message and music.**

Lenten Sermon Talk-Back Series

Sundays during Lent at 12:20, Lounge

Enjoy bagels, coffee, and the opportunity to respond to the sermon of the morning.

Sunday Night Bible Study 6:30pm, Rm 120

Studying Luke, Contact Lisa Wallace or Colleen Davis, 766-4871.



Wooster Scot Symphonic Band

March 12, 7pm, Sanctuary

The Scot Symphonic Band from The College of Wooster is composed of 90 musicians, about 75 percent of whom are non-music majors. The band's repertoire is selected from standard band literature and is planned for a variety of tastes. Most of the music is "serious," but the program also includes music written in a light style. No band concert would be complete without the inclusion of at least one march, and no Scot Band concert would be complete without the music of Scotland. Please be sure to join us for this wonderful event!

Worship & Arts provides this exciting band with dinner and seeks hosts to house around 90-95 students. Hosts are asked to provide a bed, breakfast and bring them to church Sunday morning. If you can help us in planning this event, preparing dinner, or housing students, please let Nancy Davidson know, 876-5262 or ndavidson7@gmail.com.



Preacher From The Pew Series

Wednesdays, March 16-April 13; 6pm soup & salad dinner; 6:45 presentation

You are cordially invited to this series where members enlighten our Lenten season by presenting their journey of faith. If you can provide a soup or salad for these meals or help with set-up or clean-up, contact Nancy Davidson, 876-5262, ndavidson7@gmail.com.

Our distinguished lay preachers will be:

March 16 - Dick Campbell; March 23 - Morgan Hughes; March 30 - Betsy Hayes
April 6 - Cora Kuyvenhoven; April 13 - Megan Koeneman

Preacher From the Pew and *Gathering*

Gathering in Fellowship Hall will continue to begin at 6 pm during Lent, but will end by 6:40pm so folks can go across the hall to the Sanctuary if they like for Preacher from the Pew.

There are always many things we do not know about people with whom we feel well acquainted. Our Associate Pastor, Karen Ware Jackson, is one of them. Most of us who attend worship services on Sundays are fascinated watching her and Rob's daughter, Grace. She's with us most Sundays and frequently surrounded by all ages of Covenant people. Some of us have seen an article on the bulletin board by the entrance from the north parking lot that contains other interesting information about Karen. In case you have not seen it or been able to read the fine print because it's "way up there," read the next paragraph to learn more about her from the article in a fairly recent issue of a Presbyterian magazine.

"While developing relationships with people they serve, YAV's (Young Adult Volunteers) also build close bonds with each other as they strive for Christian community. Living in Christian community is probably the thing that shaped my experience the most," says Karen Ware Jackson, who began two years of YAV service in Hollywood in 2003. "Living in Christian community is difficult," acknowledges Jackson, now an associate pastor at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Columbus, Ohio. "When you are engaging people on that level, you really can't hide anything about yourself. You can't hide the broken edges and the rough edges, but you still learn to love and care for each other."

Let's all keep and use Karen's advice.

Worship Services March, April, May 2011
Sundays 8:30am & 11:00am

March 6	Communion "Alternative Abundance" Matt. 6:24-34	Tracy preaching
March 9	Ash Wednesday (Both services will have a message, prayers, and the imposition of ashes.) • 6 pm – Gathering in Fellowship Hall (service with the Indie-Gospel Band) • 7 pm – Traditional Service in the Sanctuary	
March 13	First Sunday in Lent "What Good is That?" Romans 5:12-19	Tracy preaching
March 16	Wednesday Evening <i>Preacher From The Pew</i> Series Begins (See Page 6)	
March 20	Second Sunday in Lent "Mr. Magoo and Jimmy Stewart" John 3:1-17	Tracy preaching
March 27	Third Sunday in Lent "No Water, Again" Exodus 17:1-7	Jim preaching
April 3	Fourth Sunday in Lent "Breaking Through the Roof" Mark 2:1-5	Tracy preaching
April 10	Fifth Sunday in Lent "A Matter of Life and Death" Romans 8:6-11	Tracy preaching
April 17	Palm Sunday; Greet Your Deacon "Hosanna" Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Matthew 21:1-11	Karen preaching
April 21	Maundy Thursday – Tenebrae and Communion Service – 7pm Worship Service	
April 22	Good Friday – 7pm Worship Service	
April 24	Easter Sunday "Can I Get a Witness?" Acts 2:14a, 22-32	Tracy preaching
May 1	Communion / Blessing of the Bikes - 12:15pm, Parking Lot. Bless everything from tricycles to Harleys. Bring your wheels! "Now or Later?" 1 Peter 1: 3-9; John 20: 19-31	Katie preaching
May 8	Third Sunday of Easter "What Can I Bring?" Psalm 116:1-4,12-19	Tracy preaching
May 15	Stewardship Dedication Sunday - Celebration after 11am service (See page 9) "All Things in Common" Acts 2:42-47	Tracy preaching
May 22	Senior Sunday - We celebrate our senior adults and our graduates. "The Way, the Truth, the Life" John 14:1-14	Tracy preaching
May 29	Sixth Sunday of Easter "An Unknown God" Acts 17:22-31	Jim preaching

Events and Announcements

7th Annual Older Adults Educational Forum

Wed., March 16, 9am-1:30pm

FREE! This event includes breakfast, snacks, resource displays, and educational presentations for older adults, family caregivers, and professionals. Northwest Counseling Services will offer this event. Dr. Joseph M. Novi, D.O., Riverside Meth. Hosp., specializing in Urogynecology will present "Experience Freedom Again," discussing the treatment of pelvic disorders and incontinence in women. Dr. Joette Greenstein, D.O., Assistant Program Director, Mount Carmel St. Ann's Family Practice Residency, will present "Patient Complaints vs. Doctor Concerns." Resource displays will cover health care, community services, assisted living, and housing options. The program will take place at Meadow Park Church of God, 2425 Bethel Rd. Seating is limited. Call the registration line at 457-7876 ext. 432.

Covenant Bridge Group **Sundays, 2pm, Lounge**

All bridge players are invited to meet at the Church each month. No reservations needed. Bring a snack to share and a cold drink for yourself. Hot drinks and ice provided. For prizes and incidentals, \$1 per person will be collected.

Churchwide Outdoor Cleanup **April 9, 9-12**

We had a rather hard winter and need your help to begin spring clean up: mulching, trimming, cleaning up the landscape. The Men's Group will be helping and some Boy Scouts may be there too but we need more folks. Come help! For more information, call Allan Kennedy, 451-9318, or Jay McLean, 209-7314.



Covenant's Golf League **Begins in April**



The season usually runs into September. Whether you're a low handicapper or hacker who doesn't know a mashie from a niblick, join us for fun and the inevitable tests of self control that golf provides. For more information, contact Bob Lowery at 326-2019.

Paintings in the Lounge through mid-March are by Julie Ricketts.

Creative Hearts and Hands



Thank you to the many who provided knitted or crocheted mittens, hats, scarves and squares for afghans. Because of your talents we donated over 40 mitten/hat sets and more than 30 afghans. Throughout the year we donate afghans to Adopt-A-Family, Compass, the home bound, the homeless and the sick. Mittens/hats/scarves are donated for school children and younger. Please continue contributing 7"X9" knitted or crocheted, pattern of your choice, oblong pieces. There is always a need for these afghans and your help will allow us to carry on the mission. The mittens and hats are always welcome. Feel free to use the donated yarn located in Room 120. The yarn is in marked containers above and under the sink cabinet. If you need assistance you may contact Lynn Elliott, Nancy Cowman, Donna Harder or Gail Griffin. Any of them will be happy to assist you.

Open Shelter Help Needed to Prepare Lunches **2nd Fri. of each Month**

Open Shelter is going to be a churchwide mission, so all are invited to feed our neighbors. Lunches are prepared at Covenant at 8:30am, and delivered by 10:30am, to St. John's Episcopal Church. Shopping for supplies is the previous Tues. or Wed. If you can help fix lunches or assist with shopping or delivery, sign up on the bulletin board in the hall or contact Carrie Mellen, 771-1396, dmellen@columbus.rr.com. This is a great opportunity to enjoy the company of other Covenant members while making a difference in our community. No long term commitment...just help for an hour or so when you can.



Mission Co-Workers

Please remember to keep the Mission Co-Workers with whom we are associated in our prayers: Elaine and Doug Baker & family in Belfast, Northern Ireland; Alice Winters in Barranquilla, Colombia, So. America; Esther Wakeman and her recently retired husband Rob Collins in Chiang Mai, Thailand, plus retired Bill Yoder, also in Chiang Mai.

Events and Announcements

Stewardship Dedication **Sun., May 15**

Theme: *Reflecting Deep Gratitude for God's Blessings*

As we prayerfully plan our personal giving to Covenant Church this year, we have chosen this scripture for meditation, Psalm 116:12:

"What can I give back to God for the blessings God has poured out on me?" (Translation: The Message)

During this stewardship campaign, let us each personally consider this verse and the questions: How has God blessed my life? What can I give back to God, in time, treasure, and talent as a reflection of these blessings?

Certainly, we can never pay back God for all our many blessings. God's blessings are overwhelming: The blessings of our beautiful earth, our very lives, our free country, the nurturing Body of Christ, our community in Covenant Presbyterian Church.... And let us not forget the gift God gave of Jesus himself.

And so, we give not out of duty, but out of gratitude, deep gratitude, for the many blessings poured upon us.

Stewardship Dedication Sunday is the day we make our yearly pledge of giving to Covenant. Expect to see more letters and mailings as we prepare to prayerfully make our pledges.

Questions? Contact a member of the Giving Committee: Linda Billman, Maggie Broekema, John Griffin, Tim Keen, Cathy Levy, Dana Rudmose, Dave Timmons.

Tutor Needs



Wednesdays, 4-5:50 pm

The enrichment of a one-to-one session once a week will benefit any student whether working hard at learning or learning easily. If you have a child, grandchild, neighbor, or friend who wants tutoring until the middle of May (when

tutoring ends), Covenant tutors can help.

Also, tutors are needed at the Maynard Ave. Church and Indianola Churches on Tuesdays and Thursdays respectively, 5-6:30pm, where students are waiting for their own tutors.

Please contact Carol Petro by phone or text, 395-1104, or email jpetroball@aol.com.

Covenant Presbyterian Women Events:

• **Lenten Breakfast Sat., April 2, 9:30am, Lounge**

Our own Steve St. Martin will present the program, "The Presbyterian Family Tree," in which he will discuss the history of American Presbyterianism. Steve says that Presbyterians had an important role in American History, from the American Revolution (sometimes called the Presbyterian Revolution) to the establishment of colleges and universities. Communion will be served. \$8 charge.

• **Birthday Luncheon Wed., May 11, 11:45am, Lounge**

Dr. Iris Meier will present a program about Sirikind, a not-for-profit company she founded to support children's education and wellbeing in developing countries. The program raises funds through knitwear outfits for dolls and Iris will bring several to show. The Birthday Offering will be received and dedicated, and CPW officers for next year will be installed. \$5 charge.



RSVP for both events should be made by calling the church office, 451-6677, or contacting Gail Brown, gbrown32@columbus.rr.com, 457-3470.

Jean A. Mortland Memorial Scholarship

Deadline March 1, 2011

Once again it is time to submit applications for the Jean A Mortland Scholarship. Each year the recipient is selected by the Worship and Arts Commission. The person chosen should be pursuing a college or graduate degree in music or theology, be a member of Covenant Presbyterian Church or associated closely to this church in some manner, and demonstrate a commitment to excellence in his or her vocation. Also considered are overall GPA, written recommendations, and financial need. The candidate must be enrolled in an institution of higher learning to which the scholarship gift will be directed.

For information and an application form, contact Ingrid Brooker, 451-6677, ingridbrooker@covenantpcusa.org.

Events and Announcements

Spiritual Cinema **3rd Mon., 6:30 pm, Lounge**



A short discussion follows the viewing of films, and subtitles are now being used to ensure that no dialogue is missed. These films are scheduled:

- **March 21**—“*Open Range*” In this film starring Kevin Costner and Robert Duvall, a former gunslinger is forced to take up arms again when he and his cattle crew are threatened by a corrupt lawman.
- **April 18**—“*Letters to God*” A young boy fighting cancer writes letters to God, touching lives in his neighborhood and community and inspiring hope among everyone he comes in contact with.
- **May 16**—“*Departures*” Winner of the 2009 Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film, this film tells the story of a newly unemployed cellist who takes a job preparing the dead for funerals.

Contact Beth Askue 459-1445 or Susan Imel 262-7444, susanimel@gmail.com, for more information.

Over 80 Luncheon **Sun., May 22**

If you are 80 years old or older, plan to attend our annual luncheon immediately following the 11 am worship service. Stay tuned for more details.

Covenant Men’s Breakfast **2nd Sat. each month**

Join Covenant men every second Sat. for breakfast at First Watch at Kingsdale. Call Allan Kennedy, 451-9318.

Did you know that the greatest thing affecting water quality is pollution? There are two main types: point source and non-point source pollution. Point source comes from an identifiable source such as wastewater treatment plants or factories. Non-point source pollution is caused by rainfall or snowmelt moving over and through the ground. As it travels it picks up natural and human made pollutants and carries them into lakes and rivers from which water is taken for our daily use. We can directly improve the quality of our water by:

- Picking up after pets when we walk them and maintain our septic systems to lessen bacteria in the water.
- Properly dispose of oil, chemicals, anti-freeze, etc. instead of dumping them down storm drains or into grassy areas.
- Limit the amount of fertilizer, herbicides and insecticides we use to maintain our yards and do not dispose of grass clippings in storm drains; it clogs them.

More info: Karen Hjelm, khjelm43@gmail.com.

Justice & Peace Receiving Bread for the World Offering of Letters **Sun., April 10**

The 2011 Offering of Letters campaign will continue to push Congress and the administration toward U.S. foreign assistance that is more effective in reducing global poverty.

The main driver of poverty reduction in the world is the hard work of poor people themselves. Given the opportunity to improve their communities and provide a better life for their children, they will seize it. We need to make sure U.S. foreign aid reaches those who need it most and that it supports their efforts to lift themselves, their families, and their communities out of poverty.

This year Justice and Peace will be giving people the opportunity to hand write letters in advance of April 10. We will send an email two weeks prior to the date with suggestions for content. Those who chose to write letters in advance can bring them on the 10th to be mailed by Justice and Peace. Those who want to use form letters can do so on April 10. Join us in working to combat hunger!

Save the Dates for Primetimers Events:

Fridays, April 15 & May 20



Everyone is invited. A “retired” Brutus Buckeye will bring visual aides and anecdotes for a fun-filled evening. Check upcoming Sunday bulletins for more information.



Salt & Light

Seeds of Hope (SOH) Community Garden 2011

The Garden Committee held its first meeting of 2011 in January to begin making plans for the new year. More than 17 different kinds of crops will be planted this year to include, for the first time, sweet potatoes.

We will be starting some of our crops inside, growing seedlings for later planting of tomatoes, green peppers, broccoli, and cabbage. Some of the highlights for this year include:

- A grant by the Scots/Miracle Gro Company.
- A wholesale membership at the Oakland Park Nursery, which allows the SOH to purchase seeds and plants at a significant discount.
- A fence will be added to our garden using a Rotary Club of U.A. grant and the Scots/MiracleGro grant.
- Volunteers will plant flowers around the fence to bring color and interest to the garden area.
- Working with First Community

Church on the SOH *North* garden to increase our crops for the needy.

We are excited about 2011 and invite all who are interested in gardening (vegetables or flowers) to become involved with the SOH. Even if you can only come for an hour a week, there will be plenty for volunteers to do. If interested, contact Bob Tannehill, Garden Manager, 488-7587, robert_tannehill@hotmail.com, or Karen Hjelm, Garden Committee Chair, 326-1433, khjelm@gmail.com.

Mission Sewing meets Tuesdays, 1-3pm in Room 121. Call Diana Sanders, 847-4431.

Know anyone who might like to receive Covenant's weekly e-newsletter of events, adventures and opportunities? Send their email address to joanpogalies@covenantpcusa.org.

2011 Per Capita - \$33.84 per member

Each member of Covenant is also a member of the larger church, the Presbyterian Church USA. As such, it is part of our responsibility to support the work of the administrative bodies of the national church – the General Assembly, the Synod, and the Presbytery. This year, the per capita is \$33.84 per member. We invite you to pay your share of the per capita so that this money does not need to come from this year's budget. Envelopes were mailed and are also in the pew racks and welcome table.

Please remember our SOS Food Pantry on your next trip to the grocery store. The following items are always needed: canned fruit, canned soup, macaroni and cheese, cake mixes, tea, hot chocolate, jello, jam, canned beef stew, canned vegetables, canned baked beans, and soap. (Please, no expired food.) If you have two hours a month to spare, please consider helping with our food deliveries. See Gerlinde Lott. Thanks for all your contributions.

Habitat for Humanity

Covenant and nine other churches have grouped together to build one Habitat house every year. The churches contribute monetarily and via volunteers. Work on the houses takes place Thursdays and Saturdays. This is not a full time commitment. If you have some spare time, go to the house and pound some nails. A hammer and a nail apron are the only equipment needed. (Each church also provides a lunch once every ten Saturdays.) This is a great cause. People get homes through this program who otherwise would not. Volunteers are needed, so if you are interested, call Dave Fecht at 451-9770.





COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2070 Ridgecliff Road, Columbus, OHIO 43221

Phone (614)451-6677 Fax (614)451-1326

www.covenantpcusa.org

Please call the church office, 614-451-6677,
if your address changes.



Covenant Contacts

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View and print issues from our web site. Click on "Publications and Forms" which will take you to another page where you can click and view any issue. Please email ingridbrooker@covenantpcusa.org or call the church office if you need *Your Communicator* mailed to your house.

June/July/August Issue of Your Communicator

June/July/August issue info should be emailed by Mon., May. 9, to JP: joanpogalies@covenantpcusa.org.

Include contact information and what, when, who, where, how and why. The printed/mailed copies will be assembled on Thurs., May 26 at 9 am in Fellowship Hall and we would love your help. Call 451-6677 to volunteer.

Church Office: 614-451-6677 Fax: 614-451-1326 Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 am-4:00 pm