

Covenant Call – November 2025

A Letter from Caitlin

Colossians 3:12-15

“Therefore, as God’s choice, holy and loved, put on compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Be tolerant with each other and, if someone has a complaint against anyone, forgive each other. As the Lord forgave you, so also forgive each other. And over all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity. The peace of Christ must control your hearts—a peace into which you were called in one body. And be thankful people.”

- Common English Bible

Dear Church of the Covenant Family,

According to the PC(U.S.A.) Planning Calendar, November brings some special secular days: All Saints Day, Election Day, World Community Day, Veterans Day, Transgender Day of Remembrance, and Thanksgiving Day. Each of these days recognizes, honors, or celebrates a group of people or an institution. Days like these have the ability to draw folks together. So as we honor, recognize, and celebrate the special secular days of November, I wonder how we might respond to God’s call to unity - how these special days might bring folks together...

On November 2nd we’ll live into unity as we collectively remember our ancestors.

On November 4th we’ll have the opportunity to embody unity by greeting all of the campaign volunteers whom we encounter.

On November 7th we might reflect on women who’ve served the church and how they’ve pursued peace.

On November 11th we can live in unity by [writing letters to veterans](#).

On November 20th maybe we’ll pray for our transgender siblings who’ve been murdered.

On November 27th perhaps we’ll purposely sit with family members with whom we tend to disagree as a way to respond with love to God’s call for unity.

Siblings in Christ, November is ripe with opportunities to “give unity a go!” Let’s “give unity a go” together.

Peace,
Caitlin

P.S. There are quite a few special Sundays in November, too! All Saints Sunday, on November 2nd, will include a pilgrimage to Covenant's Memorial Garden. Pledge Dedication Sunday is November 16th and worship will be followed by the Stewardship Luncheon. Celebrate Christ the King Sunday with us on November 23rd as we reflect on the church year through Lessons & Carols. Come honor the start of the Advent season with us on November 30th. There's nothing quite like spending these special Sundays together - in unity!

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Daylight Savings Time



It's time to "Fall Back!" Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 2nd. Be sure to set your clocks back an hour on Saturday evening, November 1st to make sure you don't end up at worship an hour before it begins!



Office Hours

A friendly reminder Covenant's office hours are 10am – 3pm on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Rev. Caitlin is in the church office on Sundays, Tuesdays from 10am-3pm, and on Wednesdays and Thursdays she's in and out of the office from 10am-3pm. You're welcome to stop by during those times. She's also happy to schedule time to visit with you at the office, in your home, or meet you somewhere for coffee.



Buildings & Grounds Update

The Building and Grounds team have arranged for replacement of the roof on the Education Wing, which was well beyond its expected 20-year service life. That work is ongoing.

We're still working on getting the gutters and downspouts on the outside of the Sanctuary dealt with. We found that they're non-standard both in terms of size and how they are attached. We are actively exploring options. The standard gutters on the back of the Education Wing also need to be replaced. Once the details of the Sanctuary work are sorted out, we'll find out if we can have the same contractor do both at once and proceed from there.

The shed in the backyard that the Scouts were using was destroyed when a tree came down during one of the summer storms. The new shed has been assembled and installed. Feel free to take a look at it!



Winter Clothes for Day Laborers

Dear Friends,

With cold weather coming, you may be checking and updating your winter clothing. The Day Laborers could put clean, men's winter clothing to good use. This includes coats, sweaters, sweat shirts, shoes, boots, hats and gloves. I have a specific request for size 9 1/2 boots or winter shoes. If you would like to donate any of these items, please leave them in the box near the coat racks. The Day Laborers and I thank you.

-Bill Murphey

"I was naked and you gave me clothing..." Matthew 25:36



Hanging of the Greens and Other Save the Dates

After worship on the first Sunday of Advent, November 30, we will start the season off with an informal lunch and an "all-hands" event to decorate the sanctuary and halls for Advent and Christmas. This year, we are inviting our friends from Emmanuel Indonesian PC to join us for this festive annual event to adorn our shared space. Don't miss the fun and fellowship. Mark your calendars!

SAVE-THE-DATES

- November 16 Pledge Dedication Sunday followed by a Fellowship Luncheon
- November 23 Christ the King Sunday: Lessons & Carols of the Church Calendar
- November 30 First Sunday of Advent and Hanging of the Greens
- December 6 Session Retreat and Light of Nations Service
- December 14 Christmas Pageant
- January 4 Epiphany Celebration and Youth & College Age Fellowship Event



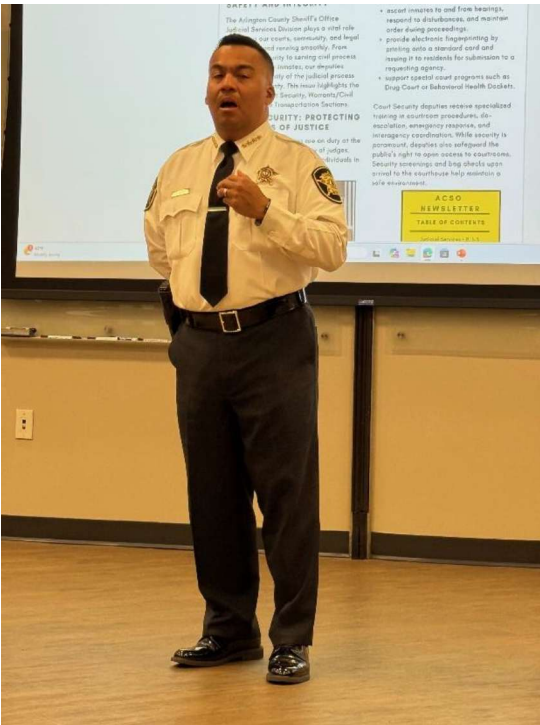
Covenant's New YouTube Channel



Exciting news! Join us on Covenant's new YouTube Channel for live streaming and rewatching of our Sunday services! The link is: <https://www.youtube.com/@churchofthecovenant2408>



Outreach Corner



On Tuesday, October 28th, Outreach Director Kent Hamaker attended an Arlington County Faith Leaders Meet and Greet with Arlington County Sheriff Jose Quiroz at the Arlington County Detention Facility on N. Courthouse Rd. Thirteen other faith leaders in attendance represented Methodist, Baptist, Episcopalian, Roman Catholic, Jewish, and Christian Science congregations. Sheriff Quiroz shared information regarding the Office of Sheriff along with his three key initiatives of: community engagement, running a safe and progressive jail focused on rehabilitation, and the wellness and development of sheriff's office staff. The sheriff shared with us his firm conviction that the power of collaboration and our combined efforts as faith leaders will benefit the people in all of our diverse Arlington communities. Also in attendance was the Good News Global Chaplain, Michele Reynolds, and many of the Sheriff's staff,

including majors, captains, and program directors. A highlight of the event was a tour of the entire detention facility, showing the attendees the entire process the inmates need to go through, beginning with booking, and ending with incarceration. If you would like to know more about outreach opportunities at the Arlington County Detention Facility, please speak with Kent.



Light of Nations Worship Service

The National Capital Presbytery's (NCP) annual international community Christmas Service, Light of Nations, will take place at the Church of the Covenant on Saturday, December 6th at 5:00pm. Covenant members are invited to join EIPC and other international NCP communities for the service and, if you choose, to bring a dish for the international potluck meal immediately following the service.

The poster features a light green background with a subtle pattern of white and yellow light rays. At the top, there are decorative strings of warm white Christmas lights. The National Capital Presbytery logo, a stylized cross made of dots, is centered at the top. Below it, the text 'National Capital PRESBYTERY' is written in a sans-serif font, with 'PRESBYTERY' in all caps. Underneath the logo, the words '*MISSIONAL *PASTORAL *PROPHETIC' are listed in a smaller font. The word 'PRESENTS' is written in red. The main title 'LIGHT OF NATIONS' is in large, bold, green letters, with '2025' in a green box to the right. Below the title, the words 'CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL' are written in a large, green, serif font. A red box contains the theme: 'THEME: "She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:21'. Below this, a green box contains the venue: 'VENUE: CHURCH OF THE COVENANT 2666 MILITARY ROAD, ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22207'. To the right, the guest preacher is listed: 'GUEST PREACHER: RULING ELDER AND FORMER MODERATOR, SHANI MCILWAIN, CRE'. Below this, the date and time are given: 'DEC. 6TH, 2025 5PM'. At the bottom left, a box contains contact information: 'FOR ANY ENQUIRY PLEASE CONTACT BUDDI 301-580-7907 FREDDIE 240-217-9960'. At the bottom right, there is a decorative element of a brown, fuzzy branch with warm white lights.